

We are pleased to have your business and we will do our best to ensure you receive the highest quality service from us. To assist us in improving our service we may record or monitor all calls. Abbey National, the Umbrella logo symbol and Because life's complicated enough are trademarks of Abbey National plc. Abbey National General Insurance Services Ltd, Registered Office, 215-229 Baker Street, London W1P 6GL, Registered in England. Registered number 307802.

# Ulster: United in grief

**'There are many decent Orangemen who will not allow these colours to be brought into the gutter'**

## Drumcree protest goes on

### Unionists divide Orange Order

Rory Carroll

**T**HE Unionist establishment split the Orange Order last night, on the eve of its climactic march today, by pleading for the Drumcree protest to be abandoned after loyalist firebombers murdered three children.

But last night the leaders of the Drumcree protest voted to ignore the pressure and "continue indefinitely".

Earlier Protestant politicians, clergymen and Orange leaders said a parade down the Catholic Garvaghy Road was not worth the deaths.

William Bingham, chaplain of the order at Co Armagh, stunned Orangemen camped at Drumcree by telling a congregation: "A 15-minute walk would be a hollow victory in

the shadow of the coffins of three children.

"We need to think where we are going and what we are doing — and let me tell you there are many decent Orangemen who will not allow these colours which we wear so proudly to be brought into the gutter. I believe the Orange Order needs to call off its protests because we can't control them."

Robin Eames, the Church of Ireland primate, joined David Trimble, Northern Ireland's First Minister, in urging withdrawal. The Grand Lodge was meeting last night to decide its response, but the Portadown Lodge said it would carry on.

Orangemen were furious that the Parades Commission yesterday rejected a fresh application to walk down Garvaghy Road.

The next 48 hours are crucial. This morning's Orange Order parade down Belfast's Lower Ormeau Road could turn violent when police remove protesting Catholic residents.

Police fear the marchers will travel to Drumcree afterwards. Pressure is mounting on the order to resume proximity talks with the Garvaghy Road Residents' Coalition. Dissident republican terrorists are believed to be trying to exploit tensions with attempted bombings.

Mainstream Unionists' ambivalence to the Drumcree protests dissolved in revulsion at yesterday's firebomb attack in the mostly Protestant town of Ballymoney, north Antrim.

Mr Bingham's plea quickly became a chorus. Mr Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, said: "The only way they can disassociate themselves now is to leave the hill at Drumcree parish church and return home."

Archbishop Eames warned: "In God's name pull back ... at the end of the day, is anything worth a human life? I don't know what way they will leave but I want them to leave."

A £100,000 reward for the capture and conviction of the bombers was offered by Ken

Bates, the chairman of Chelsea Football Club. Brought up a Protestant but now a lapsed Catholic convert, he said he was seething.

Police and troops have sealed every street off the Lower Ormeau Road in preparation for today's 8.30am parade, which was approved by the Parades Commission.

Residents hung black flags on lamp-posts to commemorate murdered Catholics.

Two years ago Orangemen drove to Drumcree to reinforce their brethren after the Lower Ormeau parade.

Orangemen at Drumcree said they were staggered that Protestant leaders had ended up siding with a convicted republican terrorist, but would await the outcome of a

Coalition. The Orangemen refuse to meet its spokesman, Brendan MacDonnith, because of a 1982 terrorist conviction.

Yesterday he urged Mr Powell to resume the talks. Appealing to Orangemen, who loathe him, Mr MacDonnith said: "We should all try to start to get a resolution to this problem, and the only way to do this is by engaging constructively by, if you like, starting to embrace one another instead of putting distance between ourselves."

Orangemen at Drumcree said they were staggered that Protestant leaders had ended up siding with a convicted republican terrorist, but would await the outcome of a

meeting of their own lodge leaders.

However, Orangemen abandoned one protest — the "freedom camp" outside Mo Mowlam's official residence at Hillsborough Castle, Co Down — and left three wreaths, one for each of the murdered boys.

Army bomb disposal experts defused a 700lb bomb found on the roadside between Moy and Armagh. It was believed to have been left by breakaway republicans, who were also blamed for last week's foiled attack on London.

Three of the 10 people arrested on Friday in London and Ireland were released yesterday.

## Timebomb that blocks the road to peace

**Obstacles/** The next hurdle is always higher but Ballymoney could be historic turning point

John Mullin

**O**NLY 12 days ago the Irish News, the nationalist daily newspaper, was upbeat about Northern Ireland's future. Its front page headline read: "Our Future Starts Today".

Its optimistic note followed the inaugural meeting of the new assembly at Castle Buildings, Stormont. David Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, and Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the SDLP, were elected as first and deputy first ministers.

There had been doubts that Mr Trimble, on the rack within the Unionist community over siding in government with Sinn Féin before the IRA begins decommissioning its weapons, would scrape a sufficient majority.

Politics in Northern Ireland these days is a case of concentrating on stumbling over the most immediate difficulty. The next challenge can wait, but assumes greater significance.

No one was certain the Good Friday Agreement could be reached until it was. The referendum brought an even bigger challenge, and then came the elections. They went just about well enough. Ditto with Mr Trimble's election.

But, all the while the Drumcree timebomb was ticking away. It had been a flashpoint for three years, and this year was going to be the biggest. It was always going to be the litmus test.

For Orangemen, there are principles involved. They suggested that, in a mature society, people should be entitled to express their cultural identity peacefully and reeled off concessions they had made over marching down the Garvaghy Road.

They employed Sinn Féin's language of victimhood. They suggested the nationalist residents of the Garvaghy Road were intent on fostering a cultural apartheid typical of South Africa or the American southern states. The parade from Drumcree church back into Portadown was portrayed as a civil rights march.

But Drumcree this year was something more. It was a rallying-point for disaffection not only with the Good Friday Agreement, but for the perceived shift of Government

which helped make it possible. It became the focus for self-out accusations, and was the line in the sand for uncompromising Unionism.

Tony Blair and Northern Ireland Secretary Mo Mowlam's continual emphasis that this year is different, and that therefore accommodation is more likely, because the majority of Northern Ireland's voters have twice backed the agreement is irksome. It is precisely because the electorate have done so that the Orangemen are now in their second week of camping out.

The true difference this year, compared with 1996, when the RUC reversed its initial ban on the Orangemen, is that the Government is determined. So too is Sinn Féin's continual emphasis that this year is different, and that therefore accommodation is more likely, because the majority of Northern Ireland's voters have twice backed the agreement is irksome. It is precisely because the electorate have done so that the Orangemen are now in their second week of camping out.

To give an ultimatum in politics is dangerous, and the Orangemen have done just that. They have also allowed that the ground, moral and physical, to be occupied by thugs and terrorists. To win would be a victory that shames them. To lose will be a humiliation.

The situation now is radically different from when hardline Unionists and loyalist paramilitaries brought down the Sunningdale Agreement and, with it, the power-sharing executive in 1974. It was the last time Northern Ireland held much power over its own affairs, and comparisons are inevitable.

In 1974, loyalists in the power stations ran down electricity production, causing frequent black-outs, while on the streets paramilitary groups built barricades and intimidated those attempting to get to work. Now that unity of purpose is absent.

There were signs this weekend that the Orangemen were losing heart as loyalists threw blast bombs and shot at police. They knew they were losing control, and crowds at Drumcree were dwindling.

The tragedy in Ballymoney, which could prove an historic turning-point, offers them an honourable exit. To march back to the Carleton Orange Hall by the way they came would go some way to recouping lost grounds. But the opposition to the assembly and the Good Friday Agreement would be lanced.



Flying the flags ... many Orangemen decided to leave the barricades at Drumcree yesterday. But leaders of the protest voted to continue indefinitely

PHOTOGRAPH: SEAN SMITH

## 200 years of failure to curb marches and violence

**History/** Orange Order power forced successive governments to drop attempts to stop the parades

Christine Kinealy

**T**HE Orange Order is again insisting that the sectarian tensions and divisions engendered by the marching season is a recent phenomenon. History, however, proves otherwise.

The recent pattern of re-routed marches, sectarian divisions and violent resistance to government bans has been all too familiar in the two centuries since the order's foundation. And, significantly, whenever the Orange Order has defied a government ban on marching it has ultimately triumphed.

The order was founded in 1795 in Armagh, after a sectarian confrontation known as the Battle of the Diamond, in which 30 Catholics were killed. The violence followed a period of deep Protestant insecurity at the gradual restoration of civil rights to Catholics (another familiar pattern) and within a background of heightened sectarian animosity and economic and political insecurity.

From the outset, the order was a Protestant body, dedicated to sustaining the "glorious and immortal memory" of William of Orange who, in the 18th century had become a Protestant icon.

Increasingly, he was remembered for his victories at the Boyne and Aughrim over the Catholic King James II. The Boyne, in particular, was regarded as signifying the triumph of Protestantism over Catholicism, though Aughrim was the more decisive battle.

In the 19th century the annual commemoration of the battle of the Boyne on July 12 (though the battle was fought on July 1) became a key signifier of Protestant ascendancy. The influence of the order new lodges quickly spread, though mostly in the eastern counties of Ulster. Lodges were also established throughout England, Scotland and Canada.

As the Twelfth of July increasingly became an occasion of sectarian conflict, the British government and its representatives in Ireland tried to curb the worst ex-

cesses. In the 1820s an Unlawful Society Act was passed but it was largely ignored.

As a result, an Anti-Processions Act was passed in 1823, which succeeded in limiting the Twelfth of July parades, although commemorative dinners continued to be held and bells were rung throughout the day and the order itself continued.

In 1845, as potato blight triggered the Great Famine in Ireland, the Anti-Processions Act was removed, resulting in an immediate increase in Twelfth of July parades. Despite famine and death, the marches again became occasions for sectarian conflict.

In 1848, a small and easily suppressed nationalist uprising

the local lodge decided to march through a Catholic area in Dolly's Brae, near Castlewellan. Its leaders were asked by local magistrates to avoid the route; the request was refused.

The Grand Master of the Orange Lodge (also a JP and MP in Westminster), Lord Roden, provided the marchers with refreshments, including alcohol, and urged them to do their duty as loyal Protestant men. By the end of the day, in which they marched through the prohibited area, 30 Catholics had been killed.

This led to the passing of a further act banning processions in Ireland, in 1850. It was strengthened by the Party Emblems Act of 1880, but such restrictions were openly defied.

In 1867, when William Johnston led Orangemen in a Twelfth of July march from Newtownards, he was arrested. But he emerged from his imprisonment as a hero and was subsequently, as MP for Belfast, responsible for getting the Processions Act repealed in 1872.

The growth of Irish nationalism in the final decades of the 19th century saw an even more militant form of unionism emerge, and the forging of the link with the Unionist Party. The appearance of the marches also began to change

with the introduction of sashes, flute bands and drums.

The parades gained increased significance in 1921, following the partition of Ireland and the setting up of the Northern Irish state.

In 1932, the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, James Craig, declared at the celebrations: "Ours is a Protestant government and I am an Orangeman."

But in 1935, alarmed by the growth in sectarian confrontations, the Northern Ireland government banned all parades during the summer. Orange Order pressure soon got the ban lifted: the Twelfth of July parade was accompanied by rioting that lasted for six weeks and killed 13 people.

In 1937, the Northern Irish government again tried to re-route the marches but had to back down in the face of Orange Order resistance.

With the beginning of the Troubles, in 1969, marches became even more highly charged as the Orange Order repeatedly defied or ignored attempts to re-route them.

A full report can be found at the Guardian website: [www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk)

Christine Kinealy is an author specialising in Ireland



Another victory ... the Drumcree parade beats the 1995 ban

ced to flourish. In 1835, a government inquiry said Orange members had infiltrated the yeomanry and army and that the order was being helped by Protestant landlords, merchants and judges.

ing provided the order with an opportunity to portray itself as defenders of the British state. It called on "loyal Protestants" to arm themselves. The situation came to a head on July 12, 1849, when

**Many Happy Returns Waterloo**

Waterloo is 150 years old this week, but no longer looks it thanks to our on-going investment programme

**373**

stations have now been regenerated by

**RAILTRACK**

The heart of the railway

[www.railtrack.co.uk](http://www.railtrack.co.uk)



# Ulster: United in grief

'Everyone in England thinks we're all bad people. We're not, but we have to make our stand'

## Tragedy fails to end defiance

At the barricade/ 'We can't stop because those boys died. That would be weakness'

Rory Carroll

**S**EVENTY miles away three children lay dead and the Orangemen at Drumcree could not disguise their grief. Heads bowed, they stood outside the church in the rain saying nothing. Inside, their brethren prayed for God to have mercy on the departed.

Stewards stopped anyone approaching the barrier blocking the path to Garvaghy Road. Now was not the time to challenge police. "Respect for the dead, please."

And they did respect Frank Jones, aged 87, whose time had come to be buried in the graveyard next door. After a long illness the great and former major in the Ulster Defence Regiment died last week in a nursing home. He had served his community with distinction so it was only right that the protesters paused to mark his passing.

The hearse wound its way back from the graveyard and business resumed: taunts at soldiers and police, inspections of newly laid barbed wire and the gathering of fuel for bonfires.

And the Quinn brothers? "Terrible, really terrible, but we can't stop the protest because those boys died," said Dean Curry, aged 19.

"That would be weakness and that's always been the trouble with Protestants. We lie down when it gets rough and allow Catholics to trample over us."

Crouched at the mouth of a damp tent, he cupped his cigarette from the wind and explained why three deaths could not deflect the Orangemen.

"Everyone in England thinks we're all bad people. We're not, but we can't give in, we have to make our stand or the Catholics will keep pushing. The Republic used to be 10 per cent Protestant, now it's 2 per cent. That will happen here if we let it."

"The Catholics fight and fight and fight, but the Protestant are a lot more backward, they lie down. You never see the Catholics doing that."

Curry will become an Orangeman after the Twelfth but continue to be employed by and socialise with Catholics.

Most Orangemen at Drumcree accepted that the Ballymoney arson attack was probably done to support their protest, but placed blame on the Parades Commission.

Permission last week to walk down Garvaghy Road would have prevented a week of mayhem and saved the Quinns. Orangemen dismissed calls from Unionist and Protestant leaders to abandon the protest.

"We have no responsibility for what happened. We're here in peace. Those deaths should be laid at the door of Tony Blair, Mo Mowlam and Alistair Graham [the Parades Commission chairman]," said Mark, a father of two girls.

Behind him radio news leaked from a car. David Trimble, Northern Ireland's First Minister, had joined Archbishop Robin Eames and William Bingham, chaplain of the Orange Order in Co Armagh, in pleading for the Orangemen to go home.

"I had voted for Trimble in the [assembly] election. I voted for peace. But we've had six days of peace here and achieved nothing. It's time for other measures," said Mark.

His wife nodded. "Who's Bingham anyway? He's not the Orange Order, I've never heard of him before. We're staying here tonight and tomorrow."

How far should the Order go in its protest? "As far as it can, but it shouldn't engage in violence. It doesn't have to."

Thirty yards away tattooed men gazed from two caravans emblazoned with posters of Billy Wright, the murdered leader of the Loyalist Volunteer Force.

Five Forkhishmen huddled inside a tent topped by the flag of St George. Squelchy ground and chill winds had doused their fire but they ate cold beans and remained defiant.

Opposing David Trimble, Robin Eames and weak-kneed Orangemen was not a problem. "We can do without that crowd. What we need is lighter fuel and bog roll."

Did they feel bad at the deaths? "Of course. It's awful, but Protestants have suffered terribly over the last 30 years."

A Guardian straw poll at Drumcree revealed a unanimous intention to stay and near-unanimous horror at the Ballymoney murders. Many had said prayers for the Quinn brothers, others claimed the firebomb was motivated by reasons other than sectarianism.

Anguish at the deaths was tempered by a weary realisation. "It's the worst possible thing that could have happened to us. It wasn't our fault but no one else is going to see that," said Paul Crean.

Such is the hatred for Brendan MacDonagh, spokesman for the Garvaghy Road Residents' Coalition, that many assumed he was celebrating the deaths. Republican success by being hard on ruthless Unionists must do the same to survive.

An elderly couple packing belongings stressed that they were returning home to wash and change. "We'll be back, we're not running."



A police officer standing guard yesterday outside the house in Ballymoney, Co Antrim, where the three Quinn boys died in a petrol bomb attack

PHOTOGRAPH: KEVIN MAULLEY

## Loyalists target Catholic families

Arsonists/ Any one of 130 households might have suffered the Quinns' fate

John Mullan

**T**HE ATTACK on the Quinn family in Ballymoney, Co Antrim, by no means came out of the blue. In one week, loyalists have mounted more than 130 arson attempts on Catholic families throughout Northern Ireland and any one of them might have suffered the same fate.

The Housing Executive, which deals with public housing, is rehousing more than 70 families, mostly Catholic. Several home-owners are

leaving their houses even though few have been destroyed.

The loyalists' aim is to persuade the RUC to overturn the Parades Commission's ruling banning the Orange Order from taking its traditional route back into Portadown from the Church of Ascension, Drumcree. They managed to do so in 1996, the last time there was a ban, after shooting dead a Catholic taxi driver, Michael McGoldrick, aged 31.

The loyalists began their work before the Orangemen even left Carleton Orange

hall, Portadown, eight days ago. There were 10 overnight attacks on Catholic churches throughout Northern Ireland and three were destroyed.

Among them was St James's Chapel in Crumlin, Co Antrim. The 210-year-old church was the venue for the funeral of Ciaran Heffron, aged 22, a student murdered by the Loyalist Volunteer Force in April.

The LVF is suspected of being behind the attacks on the churches. It is also on the front line at Drumcree, and other paramilitaries are involved in the arson campaign. They have also targeted Catholic schools. Up to a dozen have been damaged by fire.

But police were always most worried about the attacks on homes. Senior RUC officers believed it was inevitable there would soon be fatalities but few imagined such a catastrophe.

Most of those targeted live in predominantly Catholic areas close to loyalist estates.

"I was able to put the fire out in a minute and a half. It seemed like an age"

Gerard and Madeleine Mulholland run the Marina Guesthouse on the seafront at Carrickfergus, 10 miles north of Belfast in Co Antrim.

Just around the corner is a large Protestant council estate. The red, white and blue bunting is complemented by

graffiti praising the paramilitaries. The tarmac throughout the estate was pockmarked last week, the legacy of burning vehicles that had been hijacked and set alight.

The Marina Guesthouse's boarded-up front windows bear testimony to the three petrol bombs launched through the ground-floor window early on Wednesday. The family has been unable to sleep since.

They, at least, were prepared. Mr Mulholland, aged 39, said: "We were awake and had two extinguishers in the room. I was able to put the fire out in a minute and a half. It seemed like an age."

Sean and Joan Dowds live in Collingwood, a middle-class housing estate close to the sprawling loyalist Mourneview estate in Lurgan, Co Ar-

magh. Most people living there are Catholic, and it is half a dozen miles from Drumcree.

Eight bombs were set off there late on Wednesday. Three of the devices were placed on the Dowds' home: Mr Dowds, aged 63, is a Catholic, while his English wife, aged 54, is a Protestant.

Mr Dowds, who has suffered two heart attacks, was rushed to hospital with chest pains. It turned out to be angina. His wife has multiple sclerosis. Had the fire caught hold, she believes it would have been impossible for her to escape.

Mr Dowds said the Orange Order could not duck responsibility, however sincere its opposition to violence. "This has fallen squarely on their shoulders. It was done on their behalf," he said.

## Splits emerge on consequences of 'vicious act'

Reaction/ Leaders join in condemnation but not action

Amelia Gentleman

**P**OLITICIANS and spiritual leaders were united yesterday in condemning the deaths of the three children in Ballymoney, but divisions soon emerged over what conclusions could be drawn from the tragedy.

Tony Blair described the fatal arson attack as "an act of barbarism". He said: "Evil and vicious sectarian murders must not be allowed to triumph over the clear will of the majority of right and good

thinking people who want to pursue a future of peace for Northern Ireland."

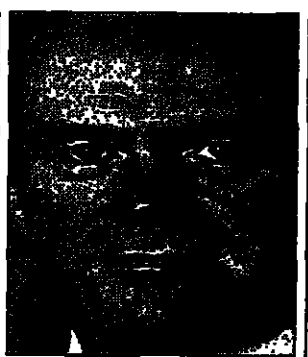
David Trimble, Northern Ireland's First Minister, also condemned the "appalling act of barbarity" and called on the Orangemen to end their protest at Drumcree.

"I must say to the Portadown brethren that the only way in which they can clearly distance themselves from these murders and show to the world that they repudiate those who murder young children is to come down off the hill," he said.

The Irish prime minister, Bertie Ahern, said he too was "deeply shocked and saddened" by the deaths.

Pleading for restraint on all sides, he said: "Despite the pressures and fear that the nationalist community, understandably, are experiencing, I would ask them to remain calm, and that any protests during the current marching season should be carried out with dignity."

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Rev Sean Brady, also appealed for calm after celebrating Mass on the Garvaghy Road. "I call on people this weekend to realise that violence does not achieve anything," he said. He hinted that any planned



Ronnie Flanagan: 'black day'

it is very dangerous to be calling for people to assemble in large numbers on any side."

RUC Chief Constable Ronnie Flanagan said the deaths diminished the significance of continuing political protests and he appealed for both the Orange Order and the Garvaghy residents to take a fresh look at their priorities.

Describing yesterday as "the blackest" morning he could remember, he said: "People should reassess their position. I think the loss of life of three children as they slept in their beds changes everything."

The Democratic Unionist Party leader, Ian Paisley, who is also the local MP, joined in the condemnation, describing the deaths as a "terrible tragedy" and a "diabolical crime perpetrated by evil people".

He made no comment on whether the protest should be abandoned.

Representatives of the Orange Order voiced their disgust at the violence, but Portadown district Orange Order spokesman David Jones said: "All the citizens of Northern Ireland are responsible."

He said the only way for violence to be brought under control would be to allow Orangemen to parade their traditional routes - if this was not permitted and the atrocities continued, then the blame would lie squarely with the Parades Commission, he said.

# The John Lewis Clearance.

## It's like a sale, only better.

Starts tomorrow.

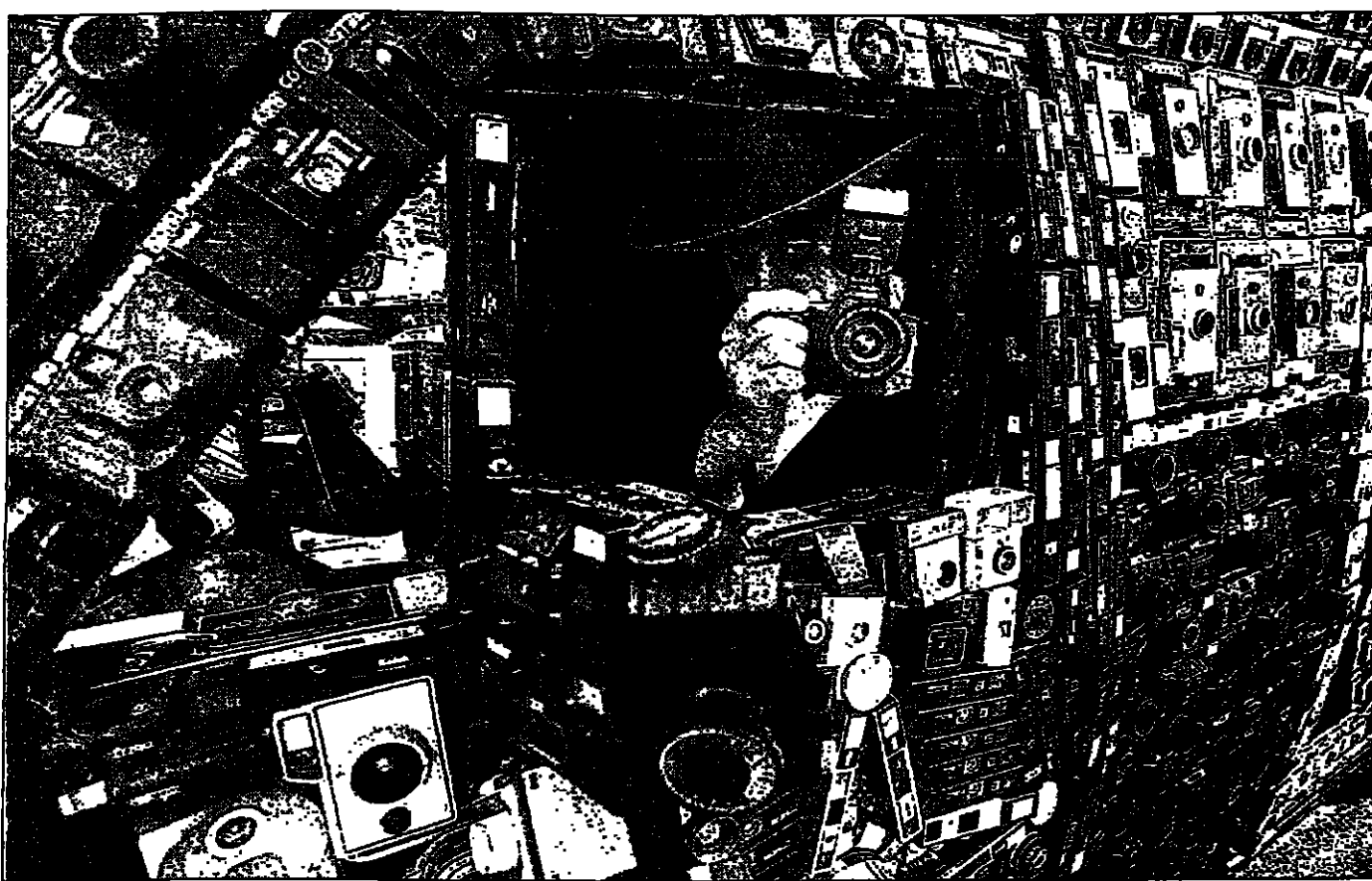
At John Lewis Department Stores, even during a clearance, it's business as usual. For instance our pricing policy, summed up by 'Never Knowingly Undersold',

means that if we find a local retailer offering the same goods at a lower price, we will reduce ours accordingly, even if their goods are in a sale. We still deliver

free across a wide area. And whatever you buy, you can return it if you are not completely satisfied. The John Lewis Clearance. It's better than a sale.

**JOHN LEWIS**  
Department Stores

LONDON: OXFORD STREET, BRENT CROSS, ABERDEEN, CHEADLE, CRIBBS CAUSEWAY (JUNCTION 17, M6), EDINBURGH, HIGH WYCOMBE, KINGSTON, MILTON KEYNES, PETERSBOROUGH, WELWYN. ALSO AT: PETER JONES - LONDON, BAINBRIDGE - NEWCASTLE, BONDS - NORWICH, CALEYS - WINDSOR, COLE BROTHERS - SHEFFIELD, GEORGE HENRY LEE - LIVERPOOL, HEELAS - READING, JESSOP & SON - NOTTINGHAM, KNIGHT & LEE - SOUTHSEA, ROBERT SAYLE - CAMBRIDGE, TREWINS - WATFORD, TYRRELL & GREEN - SOUTHAMPTON.



Artist Harrod Blank prepares to take a photograph from his customised Dodge 'camera van' which sports more than 2,000 cameras. The Californian was in Bath taking pictures for an exhibition in a Drive-Thru gallery in London on July 27. PHOTOGRAPH: ROGER BAMBER

## Baby dies after attack by pet dog

Luke Harding

**D**ETECTIVES were last night investigating the death of an 11-week-old girl who was savaged by her parents' Alsatian at their home in South Wales.

Officers and an ambulance crew were called to the house in Caerphilly, yesterday, where Carly Jones was found with severe injuries.

She had been asleep in her cot when she was attacked. Her father, Marshall Jones, who was sleeping nearby on a settee in the lounge, raised the alarm. Her mother, Ann, was resting upstairs.

Carly was taken with a police escort five miles to East Glamorgan hospital in Pontypridd but was dead on arrival. The couple had been trying for years to have a baby before the birth of Carly — their only child.

Mrs Jones' brother-in-law, Adrian Armitage, last night said the couple had been

"totally devastated" by the tragedy, adding: "Ann and Marshall absolutely worshipped and idolised Carly."

"Everyone in the family is shocked that something like this could happen. The dog was a loving family pet which they had had since an eight-week-old puppy."

According to neighbours, the five-year-old German Shepherd was well cared for, and had always appeared docile and well behaved.

Mrs Jones, aged 38, a maintenance engineer, christened the dog Data, after the character from Star Trek, The Next Generation.

Mrs Jones, aged 40, is on maternity leave from her job with a supermarket chain in Caerphilly. Friends and neighbours, many of whom had bought or lent clothes for Carly, were in tears yesterday.

"I've known the family for some time and my heart aches for them," said Margaret Phillips, aged 78. "Everyone around here will tell you they idolise the dog and the baby."

"They had the dog for some years before the baby was born. They would take it in turns to take the dog for walks. It was a good natured dog but I suppose when the baby arrived it is possible it became jealous."

Neighbour Peter Cave, aged 40, who has known the couple for more than 20 years, described them as lovely people. "They were ecstatic when they had the baby because they'd been trying for such a long time," he said. "They thought the world of her. I just can't believe this has happened to them."

"The dog was a real family pet and was well-behaved. It had caused no trouble and was a perfect pet as far as everyone was concerned."

Mark Jennings, who lives next door to the Jones' terrace home, added: "I saw them soon afterwards but they were too upset to say anything. Ann was just standing there crying her eyes out. All the family were in tears."

The dog was later destroyed.

## Puttnam angry over BBC post

Producer rejected as vice chairman says corporation needs 'creative component'

Helen Carter

**L**ORD David Puttnam, the film producer, said yesterday that his bitter disappointment at being rejected for the job of BBC vice-chairman would not stop him applying again.

Lord Puttnam was the choice of the Culture Secretary, Chris Smith, an admirer of his film Local Hero, but Downing Street added other names to a shortlist for the part-time, £17,300-a-year job.

Lord Puttnam said yesterday: "I am thoroughly pissed

off. It is not often in life one feels uniquely qualified for a job — but this was one of those occasions. But I have not given up. I will apply again."

"Sir John Birt (the BBC director general) did a very good job when he was first there, but now it is over-managed and needs a creative component, and it is not being well led."

"I do not understand it. I get a sense that some oysters do not want any grit in them. I am bitterly disappointed that sums up my feelings."

Lord Puttnam is thought to



Lord Puttnam: "I am bitterly disappointed" have been ruled out in discussions between the Minister without Portfolio, lost out

when a powerful alliance formed by Peter Mandelson, the BBC's chairman, Sir Christopher Bland, and Sir John Birt.

It is anticipated that the position will go to Gail Rebeck, the 46-year-old chief executive of the Random House publishing group and wife of Philip Gould, Tony Blair's trusted opinion pollster. It is thought that Lord Puttnam, aged 57, whose films have won him Oscars and Bafta awards, fell out of favour because it was feared he would clash with Sir Christopher's and Sir John's style of management.

The vice-chairman's job is considered vital in deciding which direction the BBC will take, and Lord Puttnam's supporters say he would have

had a dramatic effect in revitalising the corporation. The person chosen will also be instrumental in deciding a new director general of the corporation when Sir John retires in March 2000.

Soon after he was made a working Labour peer last year, Lord Puttnam said he was keen to move away from films to education, and was passionate about the BBC job, which was held by the former Labour chief whip, Lord Cocks.

A spokeswoman for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport refused to comment on speculation about the choice of vice chairman. "An announcement will be made between now and the end of the month."

## Druids rue lack of zest as bad weather goes on

Helen Carter

**T**HE mystery of the dreary British weather has been solved: a group of druids say they did not put enough passion into their summer solstice sun dance.

As forecasters predict a miserable patch of weather will continue to hit Britain for the next few days, the druids are doing their best to stop the rain and high winds and have already carried out an extra mystical dance aimed at bringing out the sun.

Edward Pryn, arch druid of Cornwall, said: "I don't think we put enough effort into our sun dance on the solstice. We only danced for two hours because the weather was a bit dreary."

The druids' sun dance involves a ritual of sprinkling holy water on to an ancient stone circle in the garden of the arch druid of Cornwall Mr Pryn's back garden in Padstow, Cornwall, and dancing

"When we first did the sun dance in 1995 it worked very well and we had a lovely hot summer," he said.

"But we were dancing for four hours. On Friday we had another go when the moon was out and we will now have to wait and see what happens to the weather."

It is not like switching an electric light on and off. But we are confident it will work eventually."

Weather forecaster, Rob Bunn, of PA Weather Centre, said the weather had been caused by an unusual Atlantic jetstream which was directed over the British Isles, instead of in its normal position further north. "There will be no sense of summer at the beginning of the week," he said. "It is going to feel colder over the next few days and it will be showery, although there will be some sun."

Temperatures in the North today are unlikely to top 15C (59F), while the South will be slightly warmer at 20C (68F).



Tourists shelter under an umbrella and look out to sea on the seafloor in Sidmouth, Devon, yesterday. The poor weather sweeping Britain is expected to last until at least midweek. PHOTOGRAPH: TIM CUFF

## Chaos fear over second Tube walkout

Seumas Milne  
Labour Editor

**T**HE second anti-privatisation strike on the London Underground kicked off last night when thousands of Tube workers began a 24-hour stoppage.

The walkout, called by the Rail Maritime and Transport union, is expected to cause greatest disruption to this morning's traffic. On the basis of last month's 48-hour strike, between a third and two-thirds of services could be cancelled and a dozen or more stations closed.

The dispute, which coincides with the 13th consecutive anti-cuts strike by Essex firefighters, is over RMT's demand for job security and pay and conditions guarantees in the track and signalling parts of the London Underground operation due to be transferred to the private sector.

Talks with LU management ended without agreement last week and the union may now seek a meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, to press for all Tube workers to remain LU employees under his part-privatisation investment scheme.

Simon Sperry, chief executive of the London Chamber of Commerce, accused the RMT of "potentially delaying plans to inject desperately needed funds."

But Bob Crow, RMT assistant general secretary, said LU management had refused to address the union's concerns in a "meaningful way."

## Television and radio

BBC 1

6.00 News, 6.30 Start the Week, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.30 News, 2.00 News, 2.30 News, 3.00 News, 3.30 News, 4.00 News, 4.30 News, 5.00 News, 5.30 News, 6.00 News, 6.30 News, 7.00 News, 7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News, 9.00 News, 9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News, 11.00 News, 11.30 News, 12.00 News, 12.30 News, 1.00 News, 1.3



هناك امر

Lord Neill standards committee may set guidelines on lobbyists' contact with government, **Michael White** reports

# Blair acts on 'cronyism culture'

## Brown aide is leak suspect

**T**ONY Blair is preparing to refer the role of Westminster and Whitehall lobbyists to Lord Neill's committee on standards in public life as the best way to defuse the "culture of cronyism" controversy and set guidelines for future contacts.

Some cabinet ministers, including Clare Short and David Clark, want a total ban on direct contact between government and lobbyists — preferring client companies to make their own representations — but senior ministers doubt that would be practical.

However, they admit the rules need clarification, as details surface of alleged leaks of budget secrets involving Gordon Brown's adviser, Ed Balls. Yesterday's Observer claimed that "faxes almost every day" went from the office of Peter Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio, to his former aide, Derek Draper's lobbying firm GPC Market Access.

The Home Secretary, Jack Straw, referred to "allegations and anecdotes". But Treasury sources yesterday confirmed the revelation that the department's then-permanent secretary, Lord Burns, complained to Number 10 about a leak on Labour's first Budget Day, July 2, 1997. Mr Balls was a chief suspect.

Yesterday Mr Straw hinted that Lord Neill may be drawn into the row over lobbyists' relationships with government.

Asked about imposing a quarantine on special advisers to Labour shadow ministers, some of whom joined private firms after the general election, Mr Straw told Radio 4's World this Weekend: "I'm not sure about that, although I think we ought to take advice from the Neill committee about that. What I am clear about is there have to be very tight rules about contact."



Ed Balls, right, adviser to the Chancellor, and Charlie Whelan, his spokesman. The Treasury suspected Mr Balls might be responsible for a budget leak

But the Guardian has learned that Mr Blair is prepared to refer the issue to Lord Neill if his cabinet secretary, Sir Richard Wilson, suggests it after completing his study of existing guidelines. He was asked to do so by the Prime Minister after revelations last week about lobbyists for three, such firms

boasting of valuable inside contacts in the Government.

A flurry of weekend allegations against special advisers prompted the shadow chancellor, Francis Maude, and the Tory party chairman-elect, Michael Ancram, to renew pressure for a full inquiry at both Number 10 and the Treasury, where Gordon

Brown's special adviser, Ed Balls, came under attack.

Mr Ancram also called for the suspension of Roger Liddle, another ally of Mr Mandelson's and the main figure on the Downing St policy unit payroll who has been damaged by the "boastings" of young Labour staffers turned Westminster lobbyists.

Yesterday's allegations included:

- Confirmation by Mr Draper to the Observer that he did receive faxes, but no confidential ones, from Mr Mandelson's assistant, Benjamin Wegg-Prosser, a friend, and that he facilitated a meeting with a policy unit official inside Number 10.

- Allegations in a new book — Gordon Brown, The First Year in Power — that Lord Burns had suspected Mr Balls, the Chancellor's 31-year-old economic adviser, of leaking a key Budget detail to the FT.

- The Sunday Times also reported that Mr Blair attended a breakfast for Mr

'We ought to take advice from Neill about [letting advisers go straight into lobbying jobs]. What I am clear about is that there have to be very tight rules about contact'

**Jack Straw**  
Home Secretary



Jean Michel Jarre on France, fascism, football — and Charlotte Rampling

Don't miss our Education pages

Stay with **The Guardian** every day this week

## Promotion for Mandelson

Blair decided ahead of lobbying furore to give him department

**T**HE Prime Minister has decided to promote Peter Mandelson to the Cabinet as a fully-fledged departmental minister rather than in the roving role of Cabinet Office progress-chaser, authoritative sources signalled last night.

The fallout from the row over lobbyists' efforts to cash in on their ministerial contacts has been seen as particularly damaging to the high-profile Minister without Portfolio, but Tony Blair's apparent change of heart is said to pre-date last week's furore.

Some friends of Mr Mandelson go as far as to claim that media criticisms of two of his protégés, ex-lobbyist turned Downing Street aide Roger Liddle, and ex-aide turned lobbyist and columnist Derek Draper, are partly-inspired by his ministerial rivals. In reality the whole Cabinet has been damaged by the incident which the Tories are busily labelling Labour's "culture of cronyism".

"Some journalists are obsessed with Peter Mandelson," the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, admitted yesterday. But so are some ministers and MPs who attribute supernatural powers to the

man who helped modernise Labour for Neil Kinnock and then became MP for Hartlepool in 1992.

Precisely what ministry Mr Mandelson would obtain in the imminent reshuffle remained a mystery last night. Until 10 days ago insiders assumed that Mr Blair would use the unpublished Wilson Report on the need to beef up the Cabinet Office to fulfil a promise to his trusted ministerial ally.

The job would entail the power to intervene on Number 10's behalf to ensure that Whitehall departments fulfilled New Labour's strategic objectives, well-suited to Mr



Peter Mandelson: 'object of journalists' obsession'

Mandelson's restless interests and presentational skills. He has always insisted he wants a proper job running something, while both Gordon Brown and John Prescott voiced strong reservations.

If the latest informed Whitehall gossip proves correct when Mr Blair reshapes his team, probably in the last 10 days of July, the post will now go to someone else. Margaret Beckett's name was mentioned yesterday on the grounds that Mr Mandelson would have her job as President of the Board of Trade. That seems unlikely, especially given the commercial sensitivity of trade matters to the lobbying industry, controversy over which has angered and embarrassed those ministers not privately delighted by their colleague's anger and embarrassment at awkward disclosures.

Mr Mandelson's name has also been linked to Chris Smith's job at Culture Media and Sport, an enjoyable post for the right person (it was designed for David Mellor), but not for most subsequent tenants. So far it has proved a graveyard. As for Social Security, where Harriet Harman's departure is widely expected, that too seems an improbable poisoned chalice for Mr Mandelson.

BT's ISDN lines can send a document to your customers' computers in seconds, so there are no more broken promises.

BT's ISDN lines can send a document to your customers' computers in seconds, so there are no more broken promises.

Connect now from only £99.  
Freefone 0800 800 800  
or visit [www.isdn.bt.com](http://www.isdn.bt.com)

Why not change the way we work? **BT**

**Green Flag**  
Motoring Assistance

£10 SAYS WE'LL  
BE WITH YOU  
IN AN HOUR.  
THE AA AND RAC  
SAY NOTHING.


On average, we rescue our members in just 35 minutes. And if we're not with you in less than one hour, you can claim £10 back. What's more, our 6000 skilled mechanics will repair most problems at the roadside. To find out more, contact us right now.

<http://www.greenflag.co.uk>

\*Upon receipt of claim £10 cheque will be issued. \*Excludes non-members and those with existing claims.

CALL FREE TODAY ON  
**0800 001 343**

## IMPOTENCE IS NOT A LIFE SENTENCE

LATEST AND MOST UP TO DATE...  
Safe and Reliable Medication and other Treatment Options are available now for those who suffer from IMPOTENCE, PREMATURE EMISSION (P.E.) OR LOW SEX DRIVE PROBLEMS  
Would you like to lead a normal, healthy, sexually active life? Our Medical Doctors can now diagnose and provide a solution to your problem, usually in one visit. Very high success rate with all patients, including those suffering from diabetes, MS, blood pressure, heart, spinal, prostate and psychological problems. For all Men Irrespective of Age.  
Several Treatment Options available.  
Diagnosis and Treatment under internationally accepted guidelines.  
All treatments by Registered Doctors in a Friendly and Professional atmosphere, for men and their partners.  
CALL NOW AND SPEAK WITH OUR ADVISORS FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION, AND ARRANGE A CONSULTATION.  
UNITED KINGDOM  MENS CLINICS  
FREEPHONE 0800 328 1092  
PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF MEN'S CLINICS



Above: Bob Marley reminded Straw of marriage break-up

## Straw's discs

- Selva morale e spirituale, Monteverdi
- Get Off My Cloud, The Rolling Stones
- Comfort Ye, from Handel's Messiah
- California Dreaming, Mamas and Papas
- No Woman No Cry, Bob Marley and the Wailers
- History, The Verve
- Trumpet Concerto in D, Telemann
- Extract from Così fan tutte, Mozart



Jack Straw's son and daughter chose The Verve's History for their father, although the chorus 'I've got a skinful of dope' was not heard on Desert Island Discs

## Embarrassment of son's 'dope' incident replayed on Straw's desert island

Amelia Gentleman

**J**ACK Straw could have been forgiven for feeling exasperated with his teenage children, William and Charlotte, yesterday when he discovered that the record they had selected for his appearance on Desert Island Discs includes the chorus:

"I've got a skinful of dope." Apparently oblivious to the lyrics of History, by The Verve, the Home Secretary asked for it to be played just as he finished describing how he dealt with the shock of his son being caught selling cannabis in a south London pub before Christmas.

Mr Straw had asked his children to choose a record

which would remind him of family life during his desert island exile. However, it was unclear yesterday whether the two had intended to embarrass their father with their streetwise choice.

"It will remind me of their music coming through the walls, and of my occasional pleas for the record marked 'silence' to be put on," he said

as he introduced the song to Radio 4 listeners. The programme cut back to presenter Sue Lawley before the offending chorus was broadcast.

Among the eight records chosen was No Woman No Cry, by Bob Marley (himself an enthusiastic dope smoker), which Mr Straw said made him think of the time his first marriage broke up. There was

also Get Off My Cloud by the Rolling Stones, and extracts from Mozart's Così fan tutte and Handel's Messiah.

Mr Straw spoke candidly about how he had dealt with his son's exposure by a journalist. He said he believed his son had been set up, adding: "That doesn't excuse what he did, which was both wrong and foolish."

But he had felt "very, very sorry" for William, who had been extremely worried about the trouble he caused his father. Said Mr Straw: "I kept saying: 'In a sense, I've landed you in it, because were it not for the fact that you're the son of the Home Secretary, this would be, at worst, just an ordinary police matter dealt with in an ordinary way.'"

Mr Straw, firmly opposed to legalisation of cannabis, ultimately displayed a very sympathetic approach to his son's predicament. "We didn't know that he was taking drugs, nor that he was involved in the sale of drugs. But I was 17 once, and to some extent when you're 16 or 17 you have to make your own mistakes."

A spokesman for the Home Secretary said the song had not been vetted before being submitted to the programme. "I don't think Mr Straw would have listened to every line of the song; his children chose it for him." He dismissed the suggestion of a practical joke, saying: "They're just very keen fans of The Verve."

## Brown deal on pensions in £30bn cash switch

Larry Elliott, John Carvel and Michael White

**G**ORDON Brown will tomorrow unveil details of a major pre-election shift in public spending priorities when he diverts more than £30 billion towards health and education over the next three years — and targets a guaranteed minimum pension on a million of the elderly poor.

Though pensioners whose income is already above Mr Brown's declared minimum will not see such dramatic rises, those on the basic £64.70 — not claiming income support — would see their weekly income rise to £75 for single people from next April. £118.60 for a married couple, Whitehall sources indicate.

The Chancellor's report to Parliament on the year-long

further burt manufacturing. If a recession materialises "we will be back to a soaring budget deficit," said the shadow chancellor, Francis Maude. But Mr Brown will insist tomorrow that his spending plans draw the right balance between financial prudence and politics, the need to make good Labour's commitments to health, education and poorer pensioners.

The promised increase in education spending will start next year and build up to £9.10 billion extra in 2001/2. That will honour the manifesto commitment to increase the proportion of national income spent on education, but it will not be enough to restore the share given to schools, colleges and universities after John Major's election victory in 1992.

It will allow Mr Blunkett to accelerate the programme to reduce class sizes for 5-7 year olds to a maximum of 30 by 2002.

Some Whitehall sources hinted last night that pension details may be delayed following the weekend leaks. But the Government intends to safeguard the principle of universal provision for everybody while focussing extra help on those most in need of help. The likeliest outcome will be to re-badge income support to pensioners as a minimum pension guarantee, which would be increased in value.

The Tory decision in 1980 to sever the link between the state pension and earnings has meant that the elderly have not benefited from rising living standards, pensioners groups say. Ministers believe that the problem is only really acute for those pensioners reliant solely on state provision. The spread of occupational pensions has created a wealthy cadre among the elderly, they argue.

To assure markets that he intends to stay tough on spending controls, Mr Brown will chair a new cabinet committee that will scrutinise every quarter how the extra money is being spent.

Polly Toynbee, page 12



Environmental officer, Gavan Rostron, who will lead the sweep on the sand dunes at Cleethorpes on the Lincolnshire coast to identify unusual plant habitats PHOTOGRAPH: BRUCE GREER

### Scientists target resort's dunes to find plant and wildlife rarities

**S**cientists are to search beyond the donkeys and beach umbrellas of a leading resort for rare plants and wildlife, writes Martin Walworth.

The coming of unusual inland dunes at Cleeth-

orpes on the Lincolnshire coast is expected to add "significantly" to the national list of plant habitats.

Migrating birds will be tracked along with the only of tenacious grasses

and flowers which survive in some of the country's most hostile surroundings. As well as the unstable sand, the plants have to cope with tourists tramping to the beach or sliding down the dunes' slopes.

"The Cleethorpes dunes are internationally important and one of few remaining habitats of their type," said Gavan Rostron, who heads the survey. "We expect to identify colonies of the southern marsh orchid,

strawberry and hare's foot clovers and lesser meadow rue, and establish how they are faring."

The £22,000 scheme will also survey the newer coastal dunes flanking Cleethorpes beach.

## Scientist says CJD death toll is much higher

James Melkie

**A** SCIENTIST will today claim that at least 16 more Britons may have died of the human form of BSE than the 27 official victims — and that they began dying 11 years before the first recognised case in 1985.

Harash Narang, made redundant from his government-funded job four years ago, believes the establishment has either blocked or undermined important tests into both the cattle disease and its transmission to humans.

Dr Narang, who believes that the human disease — known as new-variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease — should be named after him, will today give oral evidence to the BSE inquiry.

The 56-year-old microbiologist alleges in a written statement that he was "victimised" by the Public Health Laboratory Service in Newcastle, and says he identified several patients with atypical symptoms from traditional CJD long before the new variant was announced in March

1996, and linked to the eating of infected beef.

The first acknowledged victim was Stephen Churchill who died aged 19 in May 1985.

Dr Narang claims he identified the condition, which follows a pattern of psychological problems, depression, instability, coma and death, in 1983. He says that the first death probably occurred in 1984 and involved people in their 60s as well as the mainly young people identified by the CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh.

Dr Narang, whose work is now mainly supported by Ken Bell, a food company boss, claims he was ordered to stop experiments on possible transmission of BSE to humans in 1990. When he refused, the rodent involved were killed.

"Had these experiments been completed... and had the preliminary indications been confirmed we would have been in no doubt about the link between BSE and CJD and many lives could have been saved."

Dr Narang says research leaders also refused to fund his work that might have identified whether dead cattle

entering the food chain had BSE without displaying symptoms. Urine tests could also have been developed to test live cows for signs of BSE.

Dr Narang, who believes the infectious agent in BSE is a virus, says: "The Government should have kept an open mind and should have encouraged a wide range of approaches rather than shutting down any line of inquiry which did not conform."

The PHLS has denied any victimisation. It said it sought to bring his work to scientific and professional attention despite his "misconduct".

The first was over "unsafe practices", for which he was given a written warning; the second was over unauthorised investigations into CJD victims. The disciplinary investigation into the second case in 1983 found conduct that "justified instant dismissal" — but he was released from other duties to work in London while on FELS pay.

He was made redundant in November 1994, and lost a claim for unfair dismissal.

John Carvel Education Editor

**A** UNIVERSITY was accused yesterday of blackmailing the parents of successful final-year students by charging them to attend the graduation ceremony.

Nottingham university told parents they would not be admitted unless they paid £10 a head towards the cost of the event and strawberries and cream afterwards.

The university is part of an emerging "Ivy League" of elite establishments and is engaged in an ambitious expansion programme.

It has decided to introduce the attendance charge for parents and friends to conserve resources "in view of the budgetary pressures facing all universities".

Parents complained to the vice-chancellor, Sir Colin Campbell, that the charge was a public relations disaster that would backfire when families consider how to respond to the university's frequent appeals for donations. "While we appreciate the

universities' funding problems, we feel that to charge parents for the privilege of watching their offspring collect the fruits of all the years of support is beyond the pale," said Anne and Stephen Johns, whose younger son graduated from Nottingham last week.

The charge was "tantamount to blackmail". Parents who had saved to put their children through college would not feel able to stay away.

"We asked the graduation office whether we could forgo the frills and just attend the ceremony, but were told we could not. No money, no attendance. We know from other parents we are not alone in feeling exploited. It is not so much the £10 itself (though for some that indeed could be a problem) as the principle of the thing and the way it has been handled," the Johns said.

The university said it introduced the charge last year to "maintain the quality of graduation while ensuring that as much money as possible is spent on teaching, research and student facilities".

Other universities had started charging and many were considering doing so. A university spokesman said 7,000 students had graduated since the charge was introduced and only a tiny number of people had objected. Parents got free parking on campus, tea or coffee on arrival, a printed programme, and strawberries and cream in the afternoon.

"We have tried to make graduation ceremonies more enjoyable, and the vast majority feel £10 is not excessive," he said.

Mrs Johns replied: "The university would be nothing without its undergraduates, most of whom would not be there were it not for the financial support of the parents — running into tens of thousands of pounds per student. The very least the university could do would be to thank us decently..."

"Given the amount of time and money that seems to have been spent on wooing former alumni of the university — including both me and my husband — it seems pretty crass to follow it up with a PR gaffe on the scale of this one."

first direct

"I bank when I want because First Direct is always open"

for 24 hour banking call free

0800 24 24 24

For full written details of our services write to First Direct, Freeport, Leeds LS28 2PR. First Direct is a division of Midland Bank plc. First Direct reserves the right to decline to open an account for you. To maintain a quality service, calls may be monitored and/or recorded. Applicants must be 18 or over. Member NSBC & C&G Group

مكتبة الامير



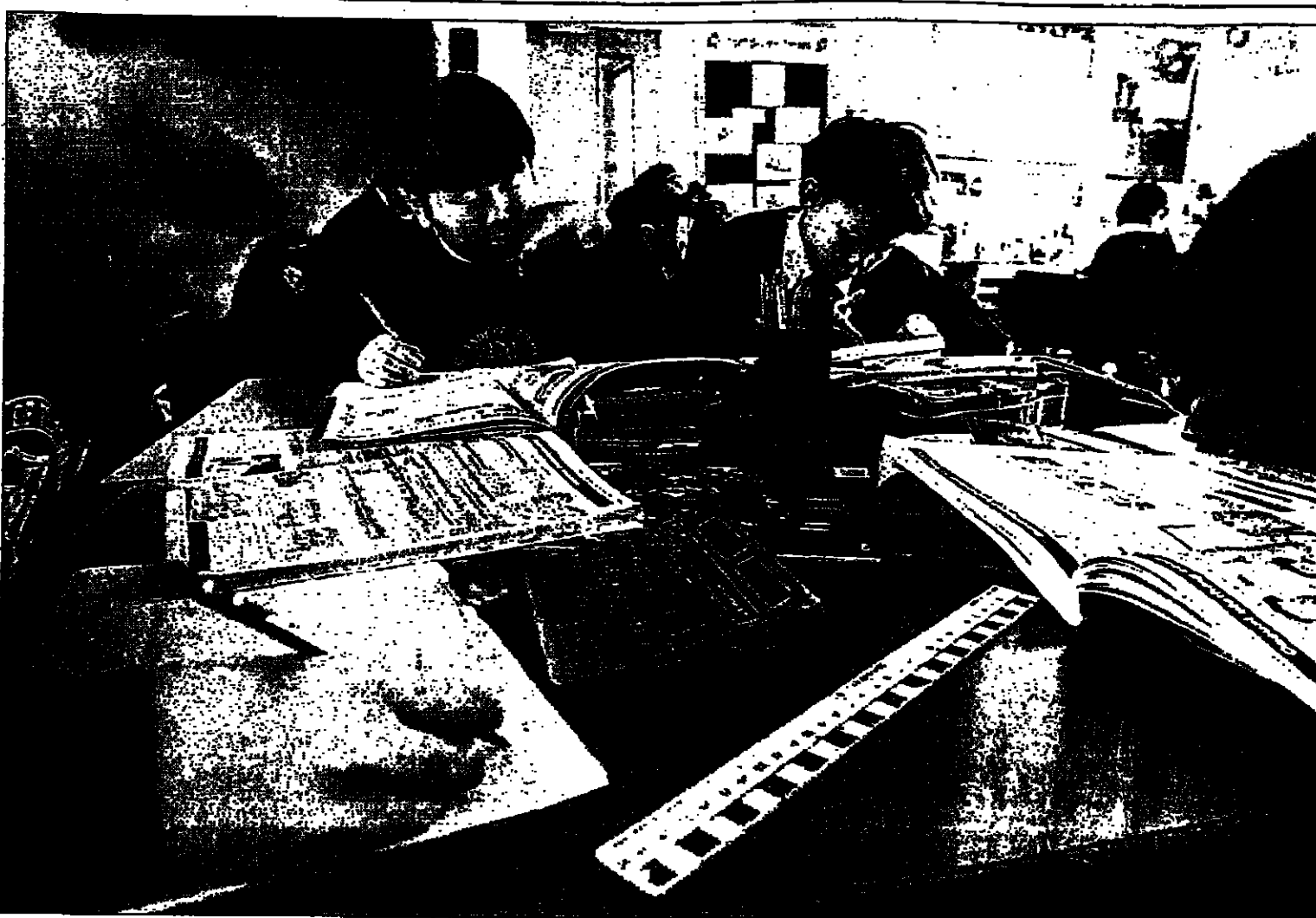
# Learning is 'effort not ability'

Tim Radford on psychology in school

PSYCHOLOGISTS have discovered a surprising way to make children perform better at school — tell them they are clever. An easy way to make them do better is to congratulate them on working hard, according to studies published today in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. The usual belief is that praise for ability is likely to motivate a child. Claudia Mueller and Caroline Dweck of Columbia University in New York say they have discovered otherwise. They argue that children praised for their intelligence might get the idea that high test scores are more important

than actually learning and mastering something new. They gave 412 children of around 10 years old — white, black and Hispanic — a task in which they performed well. "Then some of the children were told, 'Wow you got eight right, that's a really good score, you must be really smart at this,'" said Dr Dweck. "Other children were told, 'Wow, that's a really good score, you must have worked really hard.'" Then they gave the two sets a choice: something new, important and difficult — which they might get wrong — or something they were sure to do well. "Of the intelligence-praised kids, the majority wanted to do something they were sure to do well, and keep

on looking smart," she said. "Of the effort-praised kids, 90 per cent wanted the challenging task where they could learn something." After a failure, children who had been told they were intelligent displayed less persistence, less enjoyment and worse performance than the other group. The same children also said they believed intelligence was a fixed trait, whereas the others tended to believe that ability could be improved by working hard. "We wondered whether praising intelligence could create this focus on being smart at all costs, and create this vulnerability when they hit difficulty," she said. "We found that the intelligence-praised kids, when they had difficulty, no longer liked it, no longer wanted to take it home, and said they did poorly because they were dumb." The finding is likely to interest teachers and parents who have watched children — especially girls — begin well but lose interest, and then perform listlessly. The studies also confirm the fragility of self-esteem, in that it can be boosted, and knocked down so easily, in one afternoon. Dr Dweck says she is not arguing that exam results are not important. "But then the question is: when you do well, or don't, is that about your deep traits, or your worth, or the effort you put into it?" "The other thing is: what do kids care about? Do they care about just doing well? Or do they also care about learning, stretching themselves, being interested in things?"



Tests on 10-year-olds show praise for effort is of more benefit than praise for intelligence, which makes a child vulnerable

PHOTOGRAPH GARRY WEASER

## Row over Diana fund legal bills

Luke Harding

CONTROVERSY over the Diana, Princess of Wales memorial fund, was renewed yesterday when it emerged that it has set aside £3 million to pay legal bills. The fund, which has been embroiled in disputes since authorising the use of Diana's signature on tube of margarine, yesterday defended the move — and said it was "extremely unlikely" all the money would be spent. The cash will go to the legal firm, which represents the princess's estate and its executors — including her mother and sister. The fund has already been involved in a similar controversy. Six months ago it emerged its other firm of lawyers, Mishcon de Reya, had run up bills of £500,000 in 11 weeks. Last night Amanda Clow, a fund spokeswoman, described the payment to solicitors Lawrence Graham as an "investment", which ensured the princess's image and intellectual property rights were not abused. "If we did not have the authority from the estate to police the princess's image, we would not have been able to make the £80 million that we have made already," she declared. So far £250,000 had been paid to Lawrence Graham, but the final bill would be less than £1 million, she said. Andrew Purkis, the fund's

chief executive, also defended the move, adding: "We have to pay a fee to the estate so that they can do their job properly." Some of the sting is likely to be taken out of the row by the fact that the money set aside for legal bills does not come out of public donations but from commercial income from licensing official Diana products. The expenses have been clocked up through work on protecting Diana's intellectual property rights — her image, signature, letters, speeches and voice. Andrew Dobson, the senior partner at Lawrence Graham dealing with Diana's affairs, yesterday admitted he billed the estate for his time, adding: "What I charge is entirely a matter between me and the estate. It is only right that they pay some expenses. It is money the fund would not have if we had decided not to give them the rights." The fund has been dogged by controversy recently following criticism from Earl Spencer who described its activities as tacky and suggested it should be wound up. But he is said to have become reconciled to its money-making activities. The fund has shrugged off the criticism and has announced that it intends to carry on indefinitely. The six charities with which the late princess was closely involved have already been awarded £1 million each, and more grants are in the pipeline.

# NatWest

offers new start-up

# business

customers discounted

# banking

for over three years.

If you're starting up a small business, your timing couldn't be better. As the first choice bank for small businesses we're now offering discounted banking for over three years. This includes free\* banking for up to 18 months, followed by 40% discount off our normal tariff for the next two years. Plus free automated banking. It all adds up to quite a saving. For more details on these and other special offers, talk to a NatWest Small Business Adviser today. Or, call us free on 0800 777 888.

**NatWest**  
More than just a bank

National Westminster Bank Plc, 41 Leathbury, London EC2P 2BP, Registered Number 929027 England. \*18 months free banking is available to start-ups whether you are in credit or go overdrawn if you do not pay more than £1,000,000 out of your account per annum. 18 months free banking is available if you also complete and supply a certificate from a start-up training course provided by a publicly accredited training provider recognised by NatWest. "Free banking" only includes charges for paying money into and out of your account and for running it - it does not include, for example, overdraft interest or related charges. "Normal tariff" refers to our current standard tariff for small businesses of the time of going to press. For full details of terms and conditions, please refer to our leaflet "Starting up? Let NatWest give you a helping hand with your business." Nat Small Business Services - 0800 777 888 - 24 hours, available in selected branches from 1.7.98 to 31.7.98. Information correct at time of going to press. Calls to NatWest may be monitored and recorded in order to maintain and improve our service. Ref: 97259

online

Every Thursday in the  
**The Guardian**

# Blair man true to his northern roots

**Lucy Ward meets Labour MP Gerry Sutcliffe, just a few days younger than the PM but with a very different background**

SOMEWHERE between the 1992 general election and Labour's 1997 landslide, the Bradford South MP, Gerry Sutcliffe, and a party colleague sat out one evening on the House of Commons terrace, sipping their pints and chatting. Both had three children, both represented Northern constituencies and both, they discovered, had been born in May 1953, within a week of one another. But as they compared children's ages, Tony Blair interrupted his fellow MP, amazed that his two eldest boys could be in their twenties while his own were not yet teenagers. His eyes widened further as Sutcliffe explained that he had married at 19 — while the future Prime Minister was enjoying his first year at Oxford.

The mutual wonder neatly encapsulates two widely divergent elements of New Labour. While Blair, the son of a self-made Conservative, was studying for his A Levels at Edinburgh's private Fettes College, Sutcliffe — growing up in the birthplace of the Independent Labour Party — had opted out of grammar school at 16 ("I only did well at football") and was working in Bradford's Brown and Muff's department store, measuring customers for suits.

The Bradford South MP's journey to Westminster took far longer than his Sedgefield counterpart's, but in the summer of 1994, shortly after winning the late Bob Cryer's seat at a byelection, he was ac-

tively supporting Blair's party leadership campaign. And, should anyone doubt his commitment to the project, he has spent the last 14 months loyally labouring in one of the least envied jobs in the Government, as political aide to the beleaguered Social Security Secretary, Harriet Harman. The job required a safe pair of hands, and who better than the goalkeeper of the Commons football team?

There are those who say that Sutcliffe's willingness to back the Blair line represents a readiness to betray his working class roots to further reportedly fierce political ambitions. "Going with Blair and not Prescott for leader didn't go down well in the constituency," says one Bradford observer. "But he likes to be on the winning side, does Gerry. He's adaptable, a chameleon, but he's very amicable, so he gets away with it."

"He had a prickly time of it over cutting single parent benefit," says another. "He got a pretty full postbag, but I think they've forgiven him."

Ask Sutcliffe if he's sold out, and he'll point to more than two decades of unbroken commitment to the trade union movement, starting in an early job at a Bradford foundry where he joined the AEU, and culminating in his current chairmanship of the Commons trade union group. Spotting his potential as a young shop steward at Fields printers, Sogat sent him first to Bradford College and then on to Ruskin College, Oxford. He joined the Labour Party

and, with the encouragement of union mentors, became a local councillor, campaigning on wages issues. Only in 1994, with his move to Westminster, did he step down after 14 years as Sogat/GPMU deputy branch secretary.

Labour's first year in office, with its struggles towards compromise over the Fairness at Work white paper and the minimum wage, might have divided the loyalties of this modernising union man. Sutcliffe accepts that the decision to impose a threshold of at least 40 per cent of employees in support to permit union recognition and to exempt small businesses from new rules are significant concessions, and admits to "bitter disappointment" over the decision to accept only a qual-

ified version of the recommendations of the Low Pay Commission. Pin him down and he will warn that the tendency pushing for an even tougher settlement risked leading the party down a road he could not have justified on the shop floor.

But there were those who feared "a lot worse", and the TUC gave the Fairness at Work package a broad welcome. The onus now is on the unions "to get out and recruit and show their worth and value to new members".

Unions, he argues, have changed, becoming more "customer oriented" and efficient. Sutcliffe, representing a city which lost 22,000 jobs in four years in the 1980s, is ready to talk new unions rather than no unions.

He applies the same approach to reform of the party, remembering years of internal battles fighting Militant in the 1980s while Eric Pickles — whom he now bumps into in the Commons tea room — set out as Tory council leader to create Bradford plc. Labour had become elitist, Sutcliffe says. "We didn't take people with us. We had trendy Wendys and Nigels who enjoyed spouting left-wing politics which they had never lived, and who didn't want people in the party who didn't understand procedure. It became a talking shop, but I wanted to get things done, to see change. I signed up for New Labour on that basis. When the party had been formed in Bradford in the 1930s, people pushed out bar-

riers, they did something different. We were in danger of living on the history of those people's exploits and not being prepared to aim for new challenges ourselves."

Sutcliffe, never a slick-suited party man, insists new Labour can pass the Bradford test — affecting the lives of people living on some of the most deprived estates in the country. "It will take time. The chattering classes will measure it by the dialogue. Others will measure it by the actions and the delivery, and changes like Fairness at Work mean real improvements."

The same impulses persuaded him to back Blair, "though we're like chalk and cheese in the sense of backgrounds". Yes, he acknowledges, "he is a politician, like

we all are, wheeler dealers and schemers, but he believes it. He wants to see real change and that will do for me."

Over a year after the general election, the Bradford South MP is, understandably, looking less careworn than the leader born just seven days before him, though his mildly mournful expression has deepened occasionally when his boss, Harriet Harman, has been most under fire. He has stuck by her, loyally putting her case when she was left alone to defend the lone parent benefit cut. "She was unnecessarily exposed by others who could have supported her," he says.

Colleagues admire his style. "He's open, honest, and not at all hierarchical," says one. With his union hat on, mean-

## Life and times

- Born: May 13, 1953
- Educated: Cardinal Hinsley Grammar School, Bradford
- Family: married with three sons
- Career: deputy branch secretary, Sogat/GPMU 1980-84; Salesperson, Brown and Muff, Bradford; display advertising, Bradford Telegraph & Argus 1972-75; Field Printers 1975-80; Bradford Council 1982-94, leader 1982-94.
- Commons: elected June 1994. Since May 1997, PPS to Harriet Harman. Chairman, Commons Trade Union Group.

Bradford South MP Gerry Sutcliffe: A trade unionist supporter of change who loyally stood by embattled Harriet Harman when others had left her alone

PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER

while, he has had a busy year in the backroom, fixing and dealing, without emerging into the spotlight. Combined, the achievements could see him promoted in the imminent reshuffle.

Sutcliffe's fixing talents and football enthusiasm came together during the World Cup, with a scheme to buy a giant screen television for MPs to watch matches in the comfort of a Westminster conference room. Even the Prime Minister came in to see the Scotland-Brazil opening game and was duly charged £5. "We've got 62 stakeholders, we've more than covered the costs at no public expense and now we'll probably auction the set off for charity," he says. Can't get more New Labour than that.

Is there power in standardisation?

Absolutely. When a technology achieves industry-standardisation, the costs and risks of using it go down, and the number of people who can use it goes up. It's something we've long led the way in: taking the

best technologies — whether for one PC, or an enterprise — and making them more useful and affordable for more people.

Better answers.

[www.compaq.com/power](http://www.compaq.com/power)

هكنا من الاجل



## Cult of the bull



Runners stay ahead of the stampede at the weekend as an American promoter mounts a desert version on the Arizona-Nevada border of the famous annual bull runs in Pamplona, Spain. PHOTOGRAPHS: MARK TERPILL

# Lure of running steers brings human herd to Arizona desert

Maria La Ganga  
in Mohave county, Arizona

IT WAS not what Ernest Hemingway had in mind when he waxed poetic about Spain's running of the bulls — about foolhardy men and reckless women, about toreadors, bravado and drunken revelry about lost love and the Lost Generation.

But the Mesquite desert in Mohave county, on the Arizona-Nevada border, became a poor man's Pamplona at the weekend when nearly 700 people — mostly men hurtling towards middle age — grabbed at the chance to run with the thundering herd.

"I want the adrenaline rush. I told my ex-wife nine years ago that I wanted to go to Spain and do this. She and the marriage counsellor said I was crazy," said Joe Griesette, a 40-year-old carpenter

from Boulder City, Nevada, who ran with the bulls twice, as his adoring new wife and six children cheered.

In a bit of pre-run bonding, Ernie Romero of California reached out to pat a bull and said: "I'm 50, and once you get to this point in your life, you gotta do something."

The qualifying conditions for participation in what promoters described as the first bull run on American soil were few: contestants had to be at least 21, pay a \$50 (\$30 fee and not be visibly drunk — and want to put themselves in the way of 1,500lbs of fast-moving beef.

Promoter Phil Immordino called Saturday's event a "wild party". He added: "I want some action. I want some close calls. If someone gets thrown up on the fence, it's not gonna hurt my feelings."

But it was the spectators who suffered most. More than a dozen were treated for dehydration, caused by the 39F (102F) heat and the effects of the close proximity of Mesquite city, where casinos serve alcohol day and night.

That said, one runner was lightly gored as he raced down the quarter-mile course in the swirling dust of the first of two heats, with a dozen mixed-breed bulls and about 300 runners.

"I cheated death, that's what it felt like," said Justin Hayes, aged 28, afterwards. "At least until I realised there were no more bulls behind me."

## Briton injured in Pamplona ring

A BRITISH man was seriously hurt yesterday when he was twice tossed into the air on the horns of a bull at the end of the famous running of the bulls festival in Pamplona, Spain.

Medical authorities in

the Basque city said Paul Hagger, aged 21, was in a stable condition in intensive care. He was injured in the bullring, where some bulls are released after their stampede through the streets. — Reuters.

the run last year. They claim he planned to use cowboys with electric cattle prods to get the bulls running. He denies the accusations.

The Humane Society of the United States, which encouraged people to complain about the run to Mesquite's authorities, and the federal and Nevada governments, claims some credit for forcing the event to its remote location, after Phoenix in Arizona and Long Beach, California, rejected the idea.

Although Mesquite city council approved the plan, the Nevada transport department rejected the use of Mesquite Boulevard. So the run was moved to a ranch and gun club just over the border, in Arizona.

Wayne Facelle, of the Humane Society, said: "Among events involving people and animals, this is not the cruellest, but it is the stupidest." — Los Angeles Times.



## Spain peels off writer's mask

Adela Gooch in Madrid

TO MANY Spaniards, Ernest Hemingway is the archetypal *guri* — a pejorative term for a foreigner fascinated by Spain's biggest clichés — bullfights, castanets and carnations.

But the centenary of the novelist's birth — celebrated 99 rather than 100 years after it took place, respecting the lie he told so he could join an American ambulance unit in the first world war — is providing an opportunity to reveal his more complex personality.

An exhibition of photographs and memorabilia that opened in Madrid this month looks beyond the hard-drinking, womanising persona that Hemingway sought to project.

It credits him with countering the isolation brought about by General Franco's rightwing dictatorship, opening the country to an international audience through his novels.

Hemingway's sympathy for the losing Republican side in Spain's 1936-39 civil war, which he covered as a correspondent, led to the Franco censors forbidding publication of his war novel *For Whom the Bell Tolls*.

Franco's victory kept Hemingway away from Spain for 15 years but he returned in the 1950s to make it his second home.

Before he committed suicide on July 2, 1961, he was planning to attend the bull runs in Pamplona that summed up his fascination with Spain.

"He liked the collective ecstasy of a town going mad during the fiesta," said José Luis Castillo Fuche, a friend who was behind the new exhibition.

But in an introduction to the exhibition he adds: "The arrogance with which he lived his life and his triumphalism were just a mask to hide his weakness, his insecurity and his fear of death."



Bosch has created  
the mobile phone for  
commuters

There you are standing in front of this breathtaking view, totally speechless — as far as your mobile phone is concerned.

It's a predicament we can help you with. Because the new Multiband-Mobile WORLD 718 works just like you — here today, there tomorrow. As a subscriber to one of Europe's mobile networks, you can use this phone to make calls in many parts of the USA as well as other parts of the world, provided they are serviced with European GSM technology. This world-first, mobile phone will connect to the local network on its own and always retains the same phone number. So at least your mobile phone will never experience jet lag but, if you ever do, you can always switch it off.

Bosch. We bring innovation



BOSCH

For more information: Fax 01895 838548 or <http://www.Bosch.de>

# Nigerians plan action if military reneges

Alex Duval Smith in Lagos

**N**IGERIAN pro-democracy campaigners will discuss today what to do if the new military ruler, General Abdulsalam Abubakar, backs out on his pledge to move toward civilian rule when he gives an address to the nation, possibly tomorrow.

Since succeeding General Sani Abacha, who died on June 8, Gen Abubakar has stated that he wants to maintain Abacha's programme for a transition to civilian rule by October 1. But few pro-democracy campaigners within Nigeria believe this will happen.

They remain cynical although Gen Abubakar has released around 30 political prisoners and called in an international team of pathologists to carry out a post-mortem examination on Chief Moshood Abiola in an attempt to dampen speculation that Nigeria's most prominent political prisoner was poisoned.

A preliminary report by the pathologists concluded that Abiola, presumed winner of the annulled 1993 presidential elections, died on July 7 as a result of "a long-standing history of heart disease".

Dr James Young, the chief coroner for Ontario, Canada, said the team, which included Dr Richard Shepherd of St George's Hospital, London, had found evidence of hypertension for which Abiola had been receiving medication at various times.

"We are confident that toxicology tests to be carried out in Ontario will confirm our view that he was not poisoned," he said. "We expect to complete our report in three weeks." Abiola was buried at his home in Lagos on Saturday.

One of the first political prisoners to be released by Gen Abubakar, was Beko Ransome-Kuti, leader of the Campaign for Democracy and brother of the late musician, Fela. He had spent three years in solitary confinement.

"These people are not going to give up power," he said of the regime on the telephone from Los Angeles where he is now receiving medical treatment. "They are rogues. Abiola's death puts us face to face

with reality... Now we have a hard struggle ahead."

The main two pro-democracy alliances — the National Democratic Coalition (Nadeco) and the Joint Action Committee of Nigeria (Jacon) — have not yet agreed on co-ordinated action. Nadeco has held talks with Gen Abubakar whereas Jacon has refused to do so until the remaining political prisoners — an estimated 200 — are released.

Jacon, made up of 26 human rights and pro-democracy groups, will discuss its stance towards the regime at its meeting today. If anything, Jacon would appear to be hardening its stance.

In the last few days, Jacon supporters outside Abiola's home have held banners calling for an independent state for the Yoruba tribe, dominant in Lagos and the south-west.

Nadeco has been more careful, merely reiterating its view that the military should hand over to a government of regional representation which would have four or five years to set up a new electoral commission and call for the creation of new parties.

But political parties — usually led by businessmen who rely on contracts from the regime — are thoroughly discredited. When elections are held, Nigerians do not vote. The national assembly elections on April 25 had a 1 per cent turnout.

So sincere opponents of the regime and of corruption, such as Dr Ransome-Kuti and the head of the Civil Liberties Organisation, Ayo Obe, do not join political parties.

"The international community comes here with a very wrong idea about how Nigeria's problems should be solved," Mr Obe said. "They think it is just a matter of elections. Nigeria is a country of many nations and these have to be consulted so that we move away from tribal bias."

Most democracy campaigners are alarmed by the tribal divisions which have emerged in the last week.

In a country that counts 250 tribes and as many languages, some fear a "new Biafran war" — the conflict in which hundreds of thousands died in the east of the country between 1967 and 1970.



President Mandela meets Mabel Nxumalo, a woman whose son was among five people shot dead at the weekend in the town of Richmond in South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal province. Violence between African National Congress supporters and the new United Democratic Movement has led to 18 deaths in this area in a week. PHOTOGRAPH: RAJESH JANTILAL

## Allies dump 'dangerous' Yeltsin

**James Meek in Moscow reports on cronies' efforts to prevent the unpredictable president running for re-election**

**R**USSIA is trying to bury two historic rulers. One, Nikolai Romanov, the country's last Tsar, will go quietly to the grave in St Petersburg this week. But the other, Boris Yeltsin, its first president, will not enter the sleep of retirement without a great deal of noise.

Mr Yeltsin's popularity and perceived usefulness to the rich elite are at a new low.

His rule has been menaced before, but never so subtly or so broadly. Aides attack him openly as unable to cope. Once-loyal newspapers and television stations undermine him. Many of his powerful business allies — the "oligarchs" who control much of Russia's hard currency-earning industry — encourage him not to run for a third term in 2000.

The International Monetary Fund's emergency loan to shore up the rouble, which is under threat of a politically cataclysmic devaluation, is likely to provide no more than a temporary boost for the Russian leader now that so many of the figures and institutions that backed his electoral triumph in 1996 are turning against him.

Acknowledging the threat with characteristic melodrama, the president told his top generals in the Kremlin on Friday: "We have the strength to prevent any plan for seizing power which extremist forces may hatch. You know about these plans. Nothing will come of them."

Mr Yeltsin may have been referring to a newspaper, *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, owned by the tycoon Boris Seretovskiy, seen as the spokesman for the group of rich power-brokers who would like to see the president go.

The paper said last Thursday that a coup was in the offing; on Friday, its editor, Vitaly Tretyakov, called for the setting up of a "state council" to prepare for early presidential and parliamentary elections.

On Saturday, responding to Mr Yeltsin's call to the armed forces for loyalty, the paper said scornfully: "An army that gets fed and clothed wouldn't give the president a full-bore rifle today to prevent any 'putsch'."

There is no clear mechanism his opponents could use to lever him out of power before his term expires, but the forces arrayed against any attempt by the president to run for a third term look formidable.

The wealthy supporters no longer fear a communist

**Hold-up over IMF loan to rescue the rouble puts markets on edge**

**R**USSIAN financial markets face a nervous opening today after the International Monetary Fund and the Russian government failed yesterday to agree terms for a huge loan to prevent a run on the rouble, writes James Meek.

The prime minister, Sergei Kiriyenko, had hoped to finalise details with a senior IMF official, John Odling-Smee, but the meeting ended without an announcement that the money would be paid.

Russia is believed to be looking for as much as \$12.5 billion from the IMF,

the World Bank and Western banks to restore confidence in its currency after months of pressure caused by a high budget deficit and the effects of Asia's financial crisis.

Until the package is in place, Russia's central bank will have to keep interest rates sky-high and go on spending its dangerously low hard-currency reserves to prop up the rouble. Its strength is seen as critical to President Yeltsin's future.

The IMF is expected to agree the loan eventually, possibly as soon as today.

comeback at the polls. Their greatest fear is the man they helped to get elected.

Men like Mr Berezovsky, the media and banking mogul Vladimir Gusinsky and the gas monopoly boss Rem Vyakhirev felt betrayed when, without consulting them, the president sacked the former prime minister, Victor Chernomyrdin — someone they felt they could always cut a backroom deal with.

He was replaced with Sergei Kiriyenko, an unknown without consulting them, the president sacked the former prime minister, Victor Chernomyrdin — someone they felt they could always cut a backroom deal with.

They now "see Yeltsin as dangerous", said Sergei Markov, an *Izvestiya* newspaper commentator. "He's too independent, too uncontrolled, too unpredictable."

Much of the control the president once exercised over the regions through his appointed governors has melted

away now that they are directly elected, and he has little federal money to offer.

An insight into the disarray within the presidential administration was given in a frank interview last week with Igor Shaburashov, one of Mr Yeltsin's senior aides. He said many members of the administration were looking for "a way out", and suggested consultations were under way between the Kremlin and other political groups, including the communists.

Despite the president's recent relatively sound health, Mr Yeltsin was not fit enough for the job, he said. "All these years in politics have cost him dear. I think that he's accumulated a weight of weariness, physical and psychological, capable of overburdening any politician's striving for power. Having once gained power, it's very hard to give it up."

For many people this turns into personal tragedy.

One of the most loyal members of Mr Yeltsin's team, Sergei Shakhrai, was sacked recently for speaking sceptically about the legality of a third presidential term. "He can't run again," Mr Shakhrai said later. "I told him so to his face on May 20. He must have heard me. He fired me."

Despite the continuing crisis of unpaid wages, despite the poverty of the army, schools and hospitals, despite the occasional strikes, the great mass of Russians remain politically inert.

This passivity will work against Mr Yeltsin if there is any attempt to overthrow him unconstitutionally, or to force him to step down. An opinion poll last month showed that 5 per cent of Russians felt his time in power had been bad for the country, and 51 per cent said he should resign immediately.

There is eager anticipation in Moscow over Mr Yeltsin's next step. An aggressive counter-attack would be in character, but with the opposition so much more difficult than in the comfortable days when the communist-dominated parliament was a worthy opponent, where could he strike?

If a deputation of political and business leaders approached the president with a demand that he promise to go in 2000, or earlier, the Russian leader would be in a difficult position.

"To carry out a [third] presidential campaign Boris Yeltsin needs power, money, the media, political activists and ideas," said Sergei Markov. "Right now he only has power, and that is becoming less and less."

## High-life widow feared murdered

Joanna Coles in New York

**M**ANY rich, elderly widows live on Manhattan's Upper East Side, but Irene Zambelli Silverman was more colourful than most. In her seventies she hired 10 male models in black ties to escort her to an awards ceremony, and when she studied history at Columbia University, she often treated her entire class to a specially catered lunch with vintage wines from her cellar.

A former ballet dancer and the daughter of modest immigrant parents, Mrs Silverman loved the good life, always serving champagne and travelling with her husband, Samuel, a wealthy mortgage broker.

But last week, this life of riches apparently ended for Mrs Silverman, aged 82, and police were scouring skyscrapers for her body.

A mother-and-son team of confidence tricksters, Sante and Kenneth Kimes, turned out — when arrested in New York on suspicion of cheque fraud — to have several documents in Mrs Silverman's name. These included her passport, \$11,000 in cash and a 9mm Glock handgun. It transpired that the son — a former convict aged 23

who was wanted in four states — had spent the last month in one of the opulent rented apartments Mrs Silverman created out of her mansion after her husband died in 1983.

Yesterday the city's mayor, Rudy Giuliani, offered a reward of about \$11,000 (\$4,200) for any information linking him to Mrs Silverman's murder.

As a landlady she was eccentric, even hanging a Renoir painting in a bathroom. It was only a hobby. But last week it turned sour when she and Kenneth Kimes were seen arguing. According to one witness, he stopped her from taking the lift to her own apartment and forced her into his own.

Yesterday, as the Kimeses were in jail, police were working frantically to link the couple to the missing woman. Though blood stains have been found both outside the house and in the Kimeses' car, without a body there is no sample of Mrs Silverman's blood.

Friends cannot believe she went without a fight. "She had a temper," said a doctor friend. "She told me never forget I grew up in New Orleans and I know what a fishmonger's wife is."

## News in brief

### Strategic opposition town falls to Taliban fighters

**A**FGHANISTAN'S Taliban forces captured the key opposition stronghold of Maimana, provincial capital of north-west Faryab province, yesterday and advanced on other strategic towns, independent sources said.

The Taliban took the town

with little apparent resistance after two days of fighting with the forces of the Uzbek warlord Abdul Dostam. Sources said at least 2,000 fighters were now advancing on General Dostam's other military stronghold, Shibarghan. — Reuters.

### Colombian talks begin

Colombian leaders in Mainz, Germany, met yesterday at a secret location for talks with the country's second-largest rebel group, the National Liberation Army. In another tentative step towards ending 34 years of conflict. — AP.

### S Korea on alert

Military and police forces on the east coast of South Korea were on increased alert yesterday after a body, believed by the authorities to be that of a

North Korean spy, was found washed ashore. — AP.

### Ecuador at polls

Ecuador voted yesterday in second-round presidential elections, with polls predicting that the centrist mayor of Quito, Jamil Mahuad, will beat the populist banana magnate Alvaro Noboa. — Reuters.

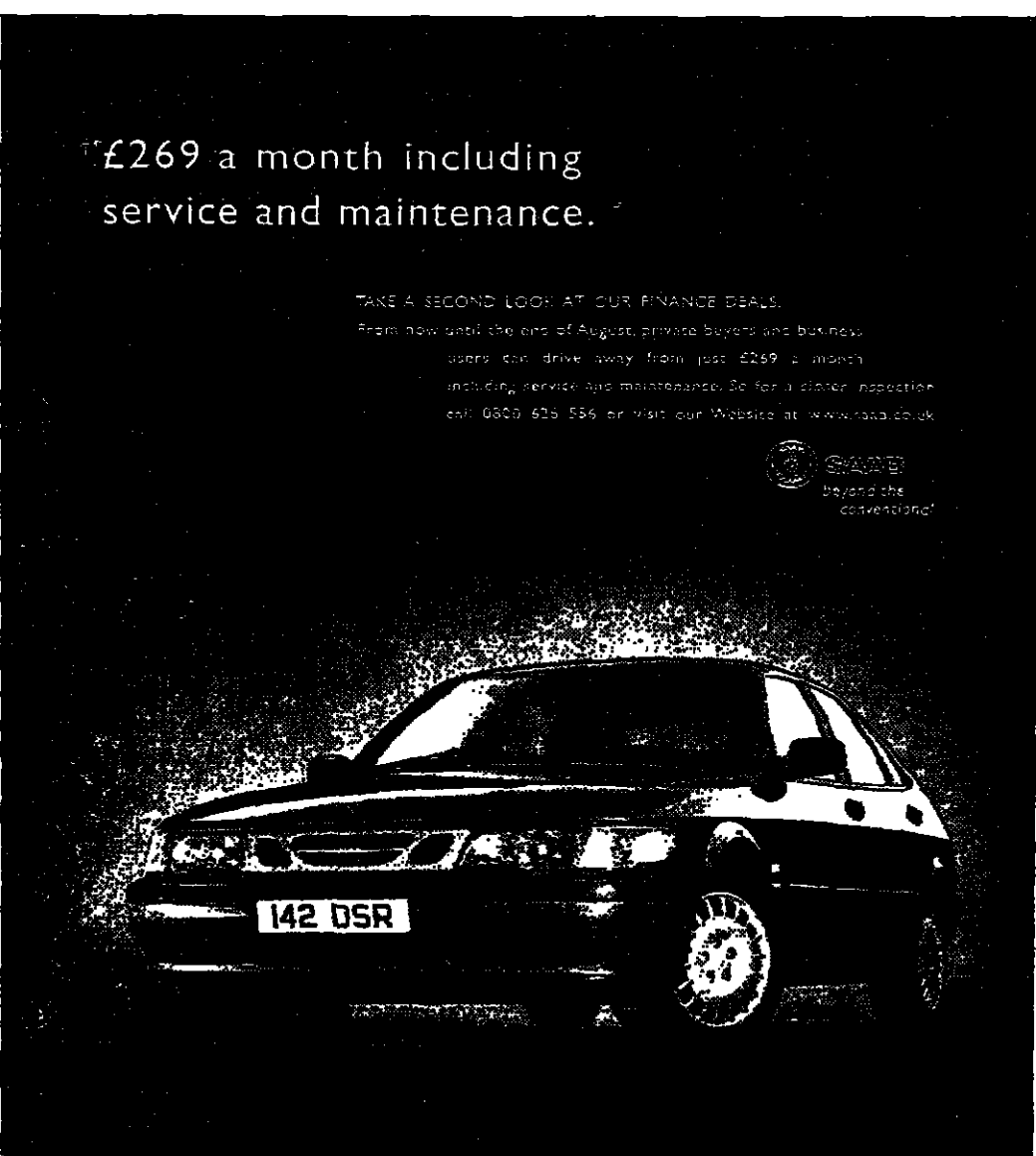
### Dissidents freed

China has released four of the nine dissidents it detained for trying to set up an opposition party late last month, a human rights group in Hong Kong said yesterday. — Reuters.

### Witch doctor's bullet test backfires

**A** WITCH doctor in Liberia shot several times in the face and chest, the paper said. Mr Numeni had promised to make them bulletproof with herbal medicine and charm. After casting the spell he insisted on proving the power of his magic. — AP.

murder. His victims were shot several times in the face and chest, the paper said. Mr Numeni had promised to make them bulletproof with herbal medicine and charm. After casting the spell he insisted on proving the power of his magic. — AP.



FOR PRIVATE PURCHASERS, THE SAAB OPTION PLAN. Cash Price = £17,023, Deposit = £3,405, Advance = £13,620. Monthly Rental = 79p (incl. VAT), Total Rental/GNPV = £8,333.97.

APR = 9.9% = Total Amount Payable = £19,039.97. The £3,405 credit facility has payable with the first rental and 431 payments are payable at the end of the month. Total Rental/GNPV = £8,333.97. The rental is subject to change and condition. Excess mileage charged at 10 pence per mile (incl. VAT).

FOR BUSINESS USERS ONLY, THE SAAB CONTRACT HIRE SCHEME. Cash Price = £17,023, Initial Rental = £270.54 + VAT, Monthly Rental = 79p + VAT. Includes 25000 miles, 24 hours emergency breakdown, 10 pence per mile (incl. VAT).

Typical Example: New Saab 900 2.0i 5 door - list price £17,023 on the road incl. 235 first year registration fee, 30 months/24,000 miles, including full service & maintenance.

All amounts quoted include an optional, independent rate as required in certain circumstances. All applicants for credit are subject to a credit check. Prices and rates are correct at time of publication. APR shown applies to Cash 900 2.0i 5 door option only registered as delivered before 31st August 1998. The conditions apply to the use of the Saab car hire plan shown on the back of this leaflet.

مكتبة القرآن



# Japan's devastated prime minister set to quit after crushing poll loss

Jonathan Watts in Tokyo

**J**APAN'S prime minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, was set today to announce his resignation after a devastating defeat for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in yesterday's upper house election.

As results in the early hours revealed an unexpected heavy loss of seats in a poll that was seen as a referendum on the prime minister, a weary and grim-faced Mr Hashimoto said: "I am responsible. I have a heavy responsibility."

He said he would confirm his intention at a meeting of LDP executives this afternoon. "It is up to me to decide. As a politician I must decide my future," he told reporters.

The state-run NHK channel said the comments amounted to a decision to stand down.

**'I am responsible - I have a heavy responsibility. But it is up to me to decide about going. As a politician I must decide my future'**

With all the votes counted, the LDP had won only 44 seats, well short of the 61 mark that was seen as the make-or-break level for Mr Hashimoto. Half of the 262 seats in the House of Councilors, the weaker of the two chambers in the country's parliament, were up for re-election. At the start of the campaign, the LDP had hoped to win 69, which would have given it an overall majority.

Although the LDP retains control of the more powerful lower house, the search for a new leader is expected to herald a period of political instability and distract the ruling party from efforts to tackle the problems which the world's second largest economy is facing.

High on the agenda is a visit later this month to Washington, where Mr Hashimoto was to discuss the Asian financial crisis with President Clinton.

The LDP must now decide whether to send Mr Hashimoto as a lame duck, appoint a new leader or cancel the summit.

After gaining power in January 1996 on a wave of expectation that he could lift Japan out of depression, Mr Hashimoto has seen his popularity plummet this year amid a series of bribery scandals and a deepening recession.

The banking sector is near to meltdown, bankruptcies are rising and unemployment has hit a record high of 4.1 per cent. Many voters blame the prime minister's decision to raise the consumption tax last year for what is commonly dubbed the "Hashimoto recession".

During the campaign the prime minister, who fought on the slogan "Trust me, trust the LDP", was unable to repair the damage of earlier mistakes.

"We did all we could," he said of the government's economic record. "But our efforts were misunderstood by voters." He said he had been forced to fight the upper-house election with one eye on the markets.

The result was a victory for the Democratic Party of Japan, which won 27 seats in its first election campaign since being established in March.

The main opposition party's leader, Naoto Kan, who most Japanese would like to see as the next prime minister, said the electorate has issued a mandate for change.

"Our party has a short history, but the electorate has now given us a great opportunity," he said. He has made a name for himself by exposing corruption in the bureaucracy.

The turn-out, at more than 50 per cent, was significantly higher than during the last such election in 1995. Analysts said this was a sign of the electorate's desire to punish the government for its handling of the economy.

Reflecting that trend, the Japan Communist Party more than doubled its representation, to 15 seats, to come third in the poll.

"The people of Japan have handed down a judgment on Mr Hashimoto and the LDP. They should stand down," said the Communist party chairman, Fetsuzo Fuma.

Fears of political turmoil are expected to put renewed pressure on Japan's currency and stock markets today.



A stern-faced Hashimoto sits in the Liberal Democratic Party headquarters last night after the ruling party's poor showing in the upper house elections. PHOTOGRAPH: ITSUO INOUE



Keizo Obuchi: favourite to succeed Hashimoto

Koichi Kato: may be seen as too close to failed PM

Seiroku Kajiyama: 'vice-shogun' of Japanese politics

## Long and damaging power struggle ahead

**The contenders/ Jonathan Watts weighs the chances of the main rivals**

**H**EAVYWEIGHTS in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party lined up last night to take advantage of the prime minister's humiliating loss of what amounts to a confidence vote in the upper house.

Despite steadily declining support in opinion polls, Ryutaro Hashimoto has been hanging on to his job because few other candidates were willing to take on the messy task of clearing up the financial system. But, after yesterday's election, the LDP was left with little choice but to find a new leader.

With no successor obvious, a factional battle is in prospect between nationalist hawks and the moderates who pulled the LDP back into power by forming a coalition with its former ideological opponents, the Social Democratic Party (SDP). This distraction could come at a worse time for the government, which is set to debate crucial measures to try to lift the world's second biggest economy out of its deepest recession in decades.

This makes the 71-year-old foreign minister, Keizo Obuchi, favourite to succeed Mr Hashimoto. As head of the LDP's biggest faction, he has the powerbase needed to push

through legislation. Although a member of the old guard, he holds moderate views, making him acceptable to both wings of the party.

But the popular perception of him is a colourless politician controlled by the former prime minister and LDP kingmaker, Noboru Takeshita. This lack of charisma could count against him as the LDP seeks support before a general election, which some analysts say could be called as early as next year.

Another obvious contender is Koichi Kato, aged 59, who has been in the political limelight for most of the past two years as the prime minister's right-hand man. A Harvard-educated former diplomat, Mr Kato was a key player in the LDP's decision to ally with the SDP to form a government in 1994. As party secretary-general, he has since been criticised for leading the LDP's majority in the powerful lower house.

But he has no experience in any of the main cabinet posts and his proximity to the prime minister means he will find it difficult to evade responsibility for yesterday's debacle. Such criticism is certain from members of the nationalist wing, whose leaders include Seiroku Ka-

jiyama, known as the vice-shogun of Japanese politics. As an architect of the government's 30 trillion yen (£20.5 billion) financial stabilisation package, Mr Kajiya, aged 70, may win support as the man best equipped to deal with the economic crisis.

But he would be viewed with alarm by Washington, where he caused a row by comparing black people to prostitutes, and China, where he has been condemned for trying to whitewash the Japanese army's sexual subjugation of local women during the second world war.

With half a dozen other possible candidates, deciding a successor could drag on, leaving a power vacuum that analysts say would be calamitous.

In the short term, the turmoil in Japan can only worsen with the demise of Mr Hashimoto, said Takeshi Sasaki, professor of political science and dean of Tokyo University. "It will hold up progress on tax reform and measures to clear up the banking sector. It could also mean an unproductive summit in Washington."

In the past, he said, the LDP has spent up to two months choosing a leader. "Now, though, Japan does not have the luxury for such a delay. The electorate has sent a clear message that the party is over. We need real leadership."

## Dashing blade who lost his edge

**The man/ Jonathan Watts on the politician who went from hero to zero**

**W**HEN Ryutaro Hashimoto became prime minister in January 1996, it seemed Japan finally had a leader assertive enough to pull the country out of its slump.

With an Elvis-style quiff and a sense of humour that led him to brandish a kendo bamboo sword at US trade representative Mickey Kantor, he seemed to be everything his short-lived predecessors were not: a charismatic, combative and dynamic statesman.

After just two and a half years, the same man is on the verge of timidity creeping out of office, having seen his stock sink among world lead-

ers, international markets and the electorate.

Expectations, perhaps, were always too high. What the world saw as independence and decisiveness came across in Japan as aloofness and arrogance, particularly when he appointed a convicted bribe-taker to his cabinet last September - a mistake from which his ratings never recovered.

Despite his background - a political aristocrat from a family of Liberal Democratic Party politicians - Mr Hashimoto was unable to build his own support base within the ruling party. As a result, the ambitious administrative reform plans which were to

have been the centrepiece of his premiership fell victim to the "shadow shoguns", the faction leaders who pull the strings within the LDP.

His administration was also plagued with scandal. Mr Hashimoto avoided allegations of an affair with a suspected Chinese spy, but his finance minister and the governor of the Bank of Japan were forced to step down after revelations that banks and brokerages had bribed financial inspectors.

The main reason for his downfall, however, is the sharp deterioration in the economy, which, according to the latest quarterly data, is contracting at more than 5 per cent per year. Flip-flops on tax reform and a lack of progress on clearing up the banking sector have led to steadily falling share prices, a

weakening of the yen and increasingly critical rebukes from Washington.

Despite some success in foreign affairs, most notably with Russian president Boris Yeltsin towards completion of a second world war peace treaty and a resolution of the thorny issue of the northern territories, Mr Hashimoto's tenure - the longest this decade - is likely to be remembered as a missed opportunity to take the drastic action needed to lift Japan out of the doldrums.

In his maiden speech upon taking office, Mr Hashimoto, who has also been finance and trade and industry minister, recognised the challenge, saying: "The most crucial task facing this government is to revive the economy."

His failure to live up to this challenge has cost him dear.

## Barefoot warriors grab power plant and hold Fiji soldiers at spearpoint

Catherine Adams in Suva

**T**HE FIJIAN army is besieged at spearpoint by tribal fighters occupying the country's main hydroelectric power station to back a demand for \$10 million from the government for land they lost to the project when it began 15 years ago.

In the trickiest civil disturbance in the idyllic tropical islands since the military coup of 1987, villagers living around the Monasavu dam have sworn to fight to the death for the "rent" they want. The site

supplies 90 per cent of Fiji's electricity.

Two hundred soldiers and riot police are positioned in a roadblock, erected by tribesmen, and allowed into the station only under the escort of barefoot warriors.

"We have the power. We can beat the gun," said mountaineer Chief Adria Vasitoga, spokesman for the area's 3,500 people.

"We are going to fight with spears, axes and clubs," he said. Behind him, warriors held aloft 10ft sharpened bamboo spears. The landowners' three-week occupation of Fiji's

most prestige development project comes as the government is beset by sabotage of the country's crucial sugar cane harvest.

Hundreds of tons of cane have been burnt by farmers demanding subsidies following drought, the devaluation of the Fiji dollar and the withdrawal of European Union sugar concessions.

The government has been playing down the Monasavu dispute, insisting that compensation for the villagers was invested for them, and that chiefs agreed to this.

Even so, a cabinet subcommittee is reviewing the people's claims and is expected to make a cash offer in the next couple of days.

One official suggested that the tribesmen may have chosen to press for more money now because an election is coming and because the area has been hit by drought.

But the hardline Fijian nationalist opposition party, Vanna Tako Lavo, said people were ready to "rise up" and overthrow their rulers.

Residents of around 50

villages still not connected to the power supply near their homes say they have not received money promised by the government for leasing their land. Comments attributed to the prime minister, Sitiveni Rabuka in which he called the landowners "unreasonable", appear to have inflamed the dispute.

"They've waited for years. I do not see why they can't wait a little more," Mr Rabuka was reported to have told a local paper.

Journalists and government officials were initially welcomed by the protesters, and invited into their huts to drink kava, made from plant roots. Now popular in California as a health drug, it is a root ground up to produce a mildly intoxicating drink.

But, increasingly frustrated by events, Chief Vasitoga is now charging for interviews and warning the government that if it pays anything less than \$10 million there will be bloodshed.

"If we die, who's going to fight for this? It's time to make a stand for our kids, for the future," he said.

£269 a month including service and maintenance.

TAKE A SECOND LOOK AT OUR FINANCE DEALS  
From now until the end of August, private buyers and business users can drive a new Saab 9-3 for just £269 a month including service and maintenance. So for a closer inspection call 0800 676 555 or visit our Website at [www.saab.co.uk](http://www.saab.co.uk)



**FOR PRIVATE PURCHASERS, THE SAAB OPTION PLAN:**  
Cash Price = £17,025, Deposit = £2,405, Advance = £3,675.  
Monthly Rental = £269, Total Rental/GHVF = £28,323.97.

**APR = 9.9%** Total Amount Payable = £19,439.97.

includes 275 credit hours for private use with the first rental and 225 purchase fee payable at the end of the contract. \*Fixed Rental/Optional Purchase Fee/Mileage subject to mileage and conditions. Business mileage charged at 10 pence per mile (incl. VAT).

APR is an annual percentage rate. All figures are estimates and subject to change. All figures are subject to change. All figures are subject to change.

**FOR BUSINESS USERS ONLY, THE SAAB CONTRACT HIRE SCHEME:**

Cash Price = £17,025, Monthly Rental = £2,405.44 + VAT. Monthly Rental = £2,405.44 + VAT.

includes 275 credit hours for business use with the first rental and 225 purchase fee payable at the end of the contract. \*Fixed Rental/Optional Purchase Fee/Mileage subject to mileage and conditions. Business mileage charged at 10 pence per mile (incl. VAT).

APR is an annual percentage rate. All figures are estimates and subject to change. All figures are subject to change. All figures are subject to change.

It's worth a double take.

**When the Chancellor rises in the Commons he will map out more surely than ever before the direction of this Government.**

Polly Toynbee

**Comment, page 12**

# Comment

## e-mail

Alex Duval Smith  
@ Johannesburg

THE black shop assistant thought it a strange request: a fridge-freezer without locks on the doors. "Why wouldn't you want locks?" he asked. "Why would I want them?" I responded. "The maid..." he replied. Dorah is my maid. She came with the house I rent. But I call her the housekeeper because it makes me feel better. Domestic worker would be even more PC; domestic servant would be almost as politically incorrect as girl or garden boy — sometimes used for a 70-year-old man. I am addressed by my first name and my mother, when she came for a visit, was granny. But the reality of employing someone who makes your bed and does the laundry, soon ceases to revolve around terminology.

Dorah, 10 years my senior, has a husband, Solomon, and four children: Dimakatso, Sidney, Gigi and Pete. Her three sons live in one leaky outbuilding at the bottom of my garden. Dorah, Solomon and two-year-old Dimakatso live in a township. Dorah and her family are black, I am white. I have six rooms and work for the Guardian.

Shocking, isn't it? Yes and no. The salary I pay Dorah is less than half my rent and about 10 per cent of what I earn. She has no written contract. But she does not work full-time for me and I pay twice the going rate. She does not work weekends and, unusually, has paid holidays. This was decided by my predecessors at the house, also British.

Sidney, 17, lives in my out-house so he can go to school in my trendy area, Melville. Gigi and Pete, 23 and 24, live there because they are looking for work and are likely to get it than if they had a township address. When Gigi hurt his back, I paid for the doctor. When Pete broke a friend's mobile phone, I advanced him the money for the repair.

In return, Gigi and Pete make sure my car is always shiny and the borders of the flower beds are dead straight. Their presence is a comfort because Johannesburg is the world's most dangerous city, or so I am told at dinners where (mostly) white people bitch about their servants.

THE first thing Dorah said when we met was: "Here, everything is about money." It is also about living in a country where, for years, there was no such thing as society as we know it in Europe.

The new South Africa has a domestic workers' trade union and even a minimum wage. One of its first entrepreneurs, Don Neube, used to be a "garden boy". Madam And Eve, a newspaper cartoon about a white woman and her increasingly emancipated black maid, providing some of the most pertinent commentary.

Everybody is renegotiating their relationship with everyone else, and it will take some time before whites realise how lucky they were not to have had a violent revolution.



## Throw money at these youngsters: we can save a fortune in the end

Polly Toynbee



IN TWERTON, the most deprived area of Bath, plagued with crime and drugs, half the population is long-term unemployed and twice as many children fail their three-year-old developmental tests. Two years ago the First Steps Nursery opened through the sheer determination of local people, with no help from the local authority. In microcosm, its fate is as good a test as any of the effectiveness of tomorrow's mighty comprehensive spending review.

When the Chancellor rises in the Commons he will map out more surely than ever before the direction and purpose of this Government. After examining the entrails of every Whitehall department, scrutinising every penny spent, he will lay out the very young that the Treasury itself has taken up this middle and confusion. For early years crises cross through government, from health and education, to the social exclusion unit's "worst estates project", and Jack Straw's ministerial group on the family. Voluntary organisations have scoured from department to department giving evidence to watch their hard-pressed family centres and programmes for deprived young children fall into the same black hole as the First Steps Nursery.

This Government is serious about social policy. It's what fires and motivates most of them. It's what they like best, and it's what's best about them. The reason for this plethora of task forces is that whatever social problem a department begins to examine, it leads them back inexorably to young children. Crime, ill health, school failure, unemployment, lack of skills — the more they seek out the causes, the more they are drawn back to the roots of problems.

Some of the key intellectual underpinning for this comes from the Home Office, where Chris Nuttall, head of research, has been saying for years that what works in crime reduction is not prisons, but nursery schools. His words fell on stony Tory ears, but now everyone is quoting him, including the top Treasury official running the early years review. Nuttall likes to quote the US High/Scope research, where deeply deprived three-year-olds in high crime areas were given two years' intensive nursery schooling. It isn't reading and writing, chalk and talk, but cognitive teaching, learning to think. Children from chaotic, unpredictable homes learn to plan, describe and evaluate their play, consider and discuss actions and consequences. They learn to solve problems, to negotiate, to teach mothers alongside children.

Real nurseries and playgroups that grow organically from communities by involving mothers, know about constructive play and teaching silent children to talk, with staff ratios of one to six, but they're being frozen out over 1,200 pre-schools have closed. Family centres are under pressure, groups like Newpin, which works with depressed young mothers, have three centres in danger of closing. Other brilliant schemes like Free in Oxford have no way to spread across the country. All the best community projects combine doctors, health visitors, teachers, welfare-to-work, social work all on one site where families are, but they belong to no single profession or department.

So there's a microcosm of the problem for the comprehensive spending review. Can it make sense of how money is spent? Can it reach into the dense sectarian undergrowth of local government, health and education budgets? This chaos is mirrored everywhere you look: the frail old are tossed between hospital, community and nursing home funds. Crime prevention is trapped by rising prison numbers and the cost of last minute emergencies. The chaos might help prevent crises at the start. The spending review has to use the new money as seed corn for shifting resources out of coping with disaster into productive prevention. The fate of the First Steps Nursery will be as good a test as any.

THOSE children have reaped phenomenal benefits. When last checked at 37 years old, compared with a similar group not on the project, half as many High/Scope children had criminal records. They earn far more, are three times more likely to own their own homes and 22 per cent fewer have ever drawn social security. Evaluations show that every dollar spent on three- and four-year-olds saved seven dollars later on prison, crime and welfare. That's why nursery years are a Treasury concern.

But how will the new money be delivered on the ground? is doing the same to Trimble now. But a better explanation is that Dr Paisley is a past master at outflanking any compromise worked out with Westminster, and that both Faulkner and Trimble are ideal targets for Paisley's rhetoric. He will always be able to outbid people like them as long as there are thick-headed bigots like David Jones of the Drumcree Orange Order within earshot of his booming voice.

Always? Well, perhaps not this time. For the essential difference between 1974 and 1998 is that the present Government gambled on having a referendum on whether the people of Northern Ireland wanted a peace deal based on power sharing. Intended to see off the hard-line, no-surrender Paisleyites, it turned up a massive majority for peace. The Heath government, by contrast, believed itself to be facing a threat from republicans rather than Unionists, and

## Call for the ref

Peter Preston



WHERE'S the referee? Indeed, is there a ref for this game at all? You may make what you will of the latest rounds in the Lobbyists Champagne Cup, but the substantive point, the point for the future, is that no one's in charge. The managers are on the pitch, waving their fists; the captains are howling operatically; the wingers are taking writhing dives. I say you chaps, has anyone got a red card handy?

We are not short of rules. John Major — to his credit — brought those rules together and published them at the start of his government as Questions Of Procedure For Ministers. Tony Blair — to his credit — produced a still more draconian version early on. There's no doubt how Prime Ministers say they want their appointees to behave. The instructions are honourably clear. But who enforces them? That question — after the last few, milling days — could not be more crucial, or more devoid of a coherent answer.

When, long ago and far away, I grew anxious and suspicious about Jonathan Aitken's stay at the Ritz Hotel in Paris and the way it seemed to flout that ministerial code, I didn't rush into print. I sent the correspondence and the facts, for investigation, to the man Mr Aitken himself thought was the referee: Sir Robin Butler, then cabinet secretary.

But Sir Robin didn't think that was his job. He didn't "investigate". He merely called in the chief secretary to the Treasury, blankly heard what he had to say, and then let Mr Aitken himself help draft the push-off letter to the Guardian. And when, thereafter, I put the whole thing to John Major himself, the Prime Minister's office merely passed the parcel back. Sir Robin had "given his opinion". Thank you and good night.

There was no investigation. There was no mechanism for investigation. There was no responsibility for investigation. There was no way of testing the lies. There were only "rules" with nobody to police them.

And so to a new dawn and a new administration. The Blair code, admirable in its quest after probity, forgot to mention just one thing. Who was to be its keeper, its arbiter, its ultimate custodian? I called the cabinet office direct to ask: "Why, the Prime Minister," they said. "It's the Prime Minister's code."

Set that certainty against the miasma of the past week. The Observer publishes a story which, at the very least, requires some detailed inquiry. Let's up in the House on Wednesday, expressing his serious "concern" and announcing a prospective tightening of the "rules" covering lobbying companies, special advisers and ministers. But hang on: who's looking at those rules? It's Sir Richard Wilson, the Cabinet Secretary who succeeded Mr Lord Butler. And he's also heaving around trying to find who dished out a defence white paper to newspapers 24 hours ahead of time. Busy man: cook and bottlewasher extraordinaire.

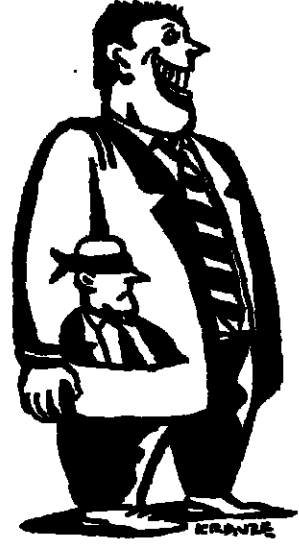
NOTHING has changed, you see. And nor has the quality of Downing Street "investigations". Mr Blair, in the heat of the moment, says that "not a single allegation in the Observer article is true"; and eats humble pie almost immediately. But worse, because more measured, he acquiesces the embattled special adviser, Roger Liddle, of any impropriety because the Observer quotes are "emphatically denied". Forget looking at evidence. Forget anything resembling due process. Emphatic denials rule OK. This is simply hopeless. You don't need to decide between the champagne-tinted recollections of an ad-

viser at a party and a couple of reporters taking notes to see that. But, in a political jam, independence is wholly impossible. It's the Prime Minister's Government which is under attack. It's his party and his old Millbank toilers who are in the frame. It's his press secretary out there, issuing ultimatums and spinning like a demented top. It's his propaganda machine at action stations, striving to rubbish his enemies' claims.

Putting a prime minister on top of this edifice of supposed probity, this accumulating slag heap of rules and instructions, is ridiculous and unfair: to everybody, including the PM. John Major didn't, perfectly understandably, want to lose chief secretary Aitken. That would have been lousy political news, heaping dung back on the fellow who appointed him in the first place. Tony Blair, I guess, values Liddle's advice and feels a natural loyalty to him. Prime ministers are human beings too.

Yet what, then, do the codes — endlessly revised, interminably amplified — amount to? Do they encourage ordinary members of the public, even ordinary worried newspapermen, sniffing something wrong, to approach the keeper of the rules in private? Hardly. Who wants to write screeds for the Downing Street shredder? Who wants to be dumped on by Alastair Campbell or yelled at in the Commons? And if the alternative is to do what newspapers normally do (that is, print a story), who thinks that a declaration of war?

The Nolan Committee, set up in the wake of Hamilton, Smith and Aitken, saw the dilemma — but tap-danced around it. Lord Nolan thought Sir Robin Butler had been put in an impossible position. Investigating ministers and



It's the Prime Minister's old Millbank toilers who are in the frame

hangers-on wasn't the cabinet secretary's job.

But Nolan copped out. His report called for "careful consideration" of the "most appropriate" means of such investigation. Let's, now, try a little of that consideration.

Let us assume that Mr Blair, like Mr Major, is truly "concerned" about standards in public life. Let us assume that those standards are better, not worse, for the newspaper stories which led to the establishment of Lord Nolan's inquiry and to the Parliamentary appointment of Sir Gordon Downey. Let us assume that Tony Blair's professed anxiety to redraw the lines over lobbyists is sincere; that he, like his predecessor, wants to run a clean, trusted ship.

By those lights, outsiders raising worries are not "enemies": they are friends of the wider good and sharers of the common aim. Early warning of a pong from the ante-chamber where young lobbyists congregate may be immediately unwelcome, but it is good too. Who wants to be the leader who is never told anything — until it's too late? Yet none of this — no warnings, no cleanings — can operate unless there is a proper system, unless the paucity of rules has trust at its core. The codes need their own, free custodians. One independent referee and a couple of lineamen are all you need. But, heavens, we do need them.

The Ulster crisis mirrors the disaster of 1974, but with an important difference

## The brink of tragedy — again

Ian Aitken

EVERYONE knows the quote from Karl Marx: "History repeats itself, the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce." It is one of Northern Ireland's many claims to uniqueness that history repeats itself over and over again in those benighted six counties, but always as tragedy.

For the awful reality is that we have been here before. We reached almost exactly the same point of euphoric hope in 1974, under the Heath government, only to have those hopes not so much dashed as trampled underfoot by a section of the Unionist majority which would not give an inch.

On that occasion, Heath's Northern Ireland secretary, Willie Whitelaw, had managed by sheer force of personality to broker a deal which would establish an assembly very similar to

Mo Mowlam's. As now, the purpose was to create an all-party power-sharing executive which would resume local control of the governance of the province, thus ending direct rule from Westminster.

Then as now, power-sharing was the key element in the equation. For the intractable reality about Ulster politics was — and still is — that the ordinary rules of elective democracy do not, and cannot, apply here. By definition, a minority can never secure enough votes to offer any hope of ever getting a hand on the levers of political power. And inevitably, a minority that has no hope of getting anything out of the ballot box is tempted to turn to violence as its only effective route forward.

It was Whitelaw who first recognised that the only viable way out of this impasse was to create a system of administration which guaranteed both communities a share in running the

province. By a combination of charm, psychological pressure and sleight of hand, he succeeded in brokering a deal between the nationalists and the Unionists that seemed set to bring a measure of stability, if not total peace.

Not total peace, however, for the simple reason that the IRA was not part of Whitelaw's deal. That is the crucial difference between his settlement and Mo Mowlam's. She managed to get Gerry Adams and his crew aboard. Though he met them in secret, Whitelaw did not. They continued to bomb and murder on a spectacular scale throughout the Whitelaw peace process.

BUT the key element in both situations, then as now, was not the IRA. It was and still is the Unionists. It is ultimately their willingness to operate any deal brokered by Whitelaw which determines whether or not it will

work. In Whitelaw's case, it was the late-lamented Ian Paisley who signed up for the deal, persuading his own party followers to accept ideas which would have been unimaginable only weeks earlier. This was David Trimble, who has driven the same party equally hard to achieve the Good Friday agreement.

The common element in the two events, however, is Ian Paisley, who boycotted both deals. Thanks to Paisley and his fundamentalist allies, Faulkner was eventually repudiated by his own party, and there followed the so-called Ulster workers' strike which eventually forced a new Labour government to abandon the assembly and re-impose direct rule.

It is arguable that the Heath government drove Faulkner to accept things which were more than his party was ever going to swallow, and there are those who say Mo Mowlam

is doing the same to Trimble now. But a better explanation is that Dr Paisley is a past master at outflanking any compromise worked out with Westminster, and that both Faulkner and Trimble are ideal targets for Paisley's rhetoric. He will always be able to outbid people like them as long as there are thick-headed bigots like David Jones of the Drumcree Orange Order within earshot of his booming voice.

Always? Well, perhaps not this time. For the essential difference between 1974 and 1998 is that the present Government gambled on having a referendum on whether the people of Northern Ireland wanted a peace deal based on power sharing. Intended to see off the hard-line, no-surrender Paisleyites, it turned up a massive majority for peace. The Heath government, by contrast, believed itself to be facing a threat from republicans rather than Unionists, and

chose not to have its vote on peace but on the continuation of the border between Ulster and the Irish republic. There was a large majority in favour of keeping the border, but everybody had known that already. There was no such certainty about the outcome of Mo Mowlam's ballot.

Armed now with their majority for peace, Tony Blair and Mo Mowlam are in a better position to use force against the threats of the Orange Order than were their predecessors at the time of the Ulster workers' strike. It has always been one of the monstrous hypocrisies of Unionism that people who call themselves "loyalists" never hesitate to defy the laws of the union to which they claim to be loyal, even to the point of attacking the forces of the crown. This time, however, they have gone a fatal step farther: they will be defying the declared view of the people they claim to represent.



# The Guardian

Monday July 13 1998  
Edition Number 47227  
119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER  
Tel No: 0171-278 2332  
Fax No: 0171-837 4530  
E-mail: letters@guardian.co.uk  
Website: http://www.guardian.co.uk

## Sickened by death

### Ulster acts at last

RICHARD, Mark and Jason Quinn knew nothing of Drumcree. The three little boys — aged 10, nine and seven — would probably have struggled to place it on a map. Not that we will ever know. For in the early hours of yesterday morning, the Quinn brothers were burned to death in their beds. The crime committed by these smiling, gap-toothed children was to have a Catholic mother in a mainly Protestant community — a community driven crazy by the stand-off at Drumcree. Now their names shall be linked forever to that place. Their deaths were triggered by it, certainly; but late yesterday another connection seemed possible. The death of the Quinn boys may have at last shamed Ulster into ending this ugly, futile battle.

The sheer revulsion was written into the faces of all those who looked on yesterday. Neighbours were aghast, the Secretary of State seemed close to tears, even the noisy Ian Paisley found his voice quietened by

shame. The people of Northern Ireland could be forgiven for feeling they had seen it all, but yesterday they showed they had not lost their capacity to be shocked. Even for them, the incineration of three sleeping children marked a new low.

The gleam of light, however, was that the mood did not begin and end with disgust. Instead it seemed to act as a spur for action. The most immediate effect was the rapid isolation of the Orangemen of Portadown who had spent the previous week massing by the barricades of Drumcree violently demanding their right to march their traditional route down the Garvaghy Road. They had expected reinforcements from their "brethren" across Northern Ireland and from across the Irish Sea, from Liverpool and Glasgow. But as word of the Quinn murders spread, Orange ardour cooled. The crowds at Drumcree thinned, more cars left than arrived. The picket that had gathered at Mo Mowlam's official residence at Hillsborough Castle went home, leaving three bouquets in memory of three slain children.

The leaders of Orangemen spoke out, too. The Rev William Bingham, the Orange Order chaplain in Armagh, deserves credit for telling his flock that forcing a march down Garvaghy Road would be a "very hollow victory... in the shadow of three coffins". David Trimble, too, seized the

moment, urging his fellow Orangemen to "come off the hill". Plenty of observers wished he had had the courage to make that plea last week. They wanted Mr Trimble to realise he is no longer just the leader of Ulster Unionism but is now Northern Ireland's First Minister. As such, he should have followed the lead set by Tony Blair and insisted on the rule of law — in this case the Parades Commission's ban on the march down the Garvaghy Road. Only by acting as the government of all Ulster, enforcing the law even when it cuts against his own constituency, will Mr Trimble's administration truly succeed.

Still, his intervention yesterday was welcome. It's possible that Mr Trimble had wanted to urge a withdrawal all along, and that it took the murder of the brothers Quinn to give him the pretext. If that's the case, so be it. The recent history of Northern Ireland suggests it sometimes takes a bloody, gruesome tragedy to shame people into action. It was the murder at Poyntpass of two young men — one Catholic, one Protestant, both best friends — that acted as a crucial spur in the closing stages of the peace process. Like those men, the Quinn boys were a model of the place Northern Ireland could be: with roots in both traditions, their lives crossed the sectarian divide. The deaths at Poyntpass were followed

by the Good Friday agreement. The hope now must be that the deaths at Ballymoney will lead the Orangemen to walk away from Drumcree, quietly and in peace. If they refuse, the rest of Ulster Unionism must do what it began yesterday — and walk away from the Orangemen.

## A right to choose

### This is the key to birth control

ONE OF THE winners of the UN's Population Award, announced on Thursday to coincide with World Population Day, was not unexpectedly a family planner. In a world which is being more crowded at the rate of 80 million additional heads a year, the work of the family planning head in Jamaica, which has achieved one of the lowest growth rates in the Caribbean, is of evident importance. The other award is more thought provoking. It has gone to a group of clan elders among the Sabiny people in Eastern Uganda who have worked with the UN Population Fund on a campaign against female genital mutilation. In 1996 they succeeded in reducing this practice by over one-third.

This award underlines an argument heard increasingly since the 1994 UN confer-

ence on population in Cairo. Women's rights — including the right to freedom from torture or ill-treatment — are desirable for their own sake, but they also impact directly upon the population problem. As the New Internationalist observes this month, "giving women security is a better way of controlling population than any number of forced sterilisations". This is also the central theme of a campaign launched this week by the International Planned Parenthood Federation. It reminds us that somewhere on the globe a woman dies every minute from pregnancy and childbirth complications, that one out of every four girls is married before she is 16 years of age, and that in many countries childless women or those who do not produce sons are regarded as outcasts. And that more than 130 million women and girls now alive have undergone female genital mutilation.

These issues should not be overlooked in the argument over the "demographic transition". The question is whether population growth will necessarily stabilise in the developing countries, as it has begun to do in the developed world. The need for it to do so is an additional argument for poverty alleviation and debt reduction in the Third World. But even these measures may not be sufficient if women are still treated as child-bearers without the right to choose.

## Letters to the Editor

### Bugs, blondes and Camilla

CONTRARY to Christian Collins's belief (Letters, July 10), blonde hair is attractive not because it implies "child-like vulnerability", but because it's easier to see if there are any parasites in light-coloured hair. In evolutionary terms, when offered two potential mates which appear equally vigorous and healthy, a suitor should choose the blonde because its appearance is less likely to deceive. Bleaching your hair is just a way of saying: "Don't worry big boy — you won't pick up anything nasty!" Chris Bell, London.

As a Japanese translator, I am mystified by your translation of comments made by Japanese TV personalities (Tiger on TV menu shocks Japanese, July 11). You report that they said: "Today we partook of something." Do you mean they said: "We ate?" Shimon Speak, London.

YVONNE Kedge asks why Prince Charles's mistress is called his companion by the media (Letters, July 11). It depends in which media one indulges: I noticed on the night the news broke of her meeting William that she was his mistress on ITN but his companion on BBC. Michael Grosvenor Myer, Cambridge.

TERRY MP Teresa Gorman was wrong to say Bangladeshi restaurant workers could find work if they tried harder (Policy and politics, July 9). Many are unemployed because of their age. Restaurant owners want young workers who are malleable, who will work long hours for less pay and who won't answer back. Patrick Powell, Swansea.

We do not publish letters where only an e-mail address is supplied; please include a full postal address. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot acknowledge those not used.

## Drumcree marches on

BRENDAN O'Leary suggests that the Orange Order parade at Drumcree is about deterring natives (No surrender [by us], July 11) when it is to remember those who fell at the Somme. Britain is a pluralist society made up of diverse ethnic groups which should be able to express their identity and celebrate their differences. In Northern Ireland this does not seem to be the case. The Labour Government, in setting up the Parades Commission, has prevented the promotion of cultural diversity. Which ethnic group will suffer next at the hands of this policy of cultural apartheid? Neville London, Ballymoney, Co Antrim.

I AGREE with Mary Midgley (Drumcree and freedom, July 10) that actions cannot be as free as opinions. Sitting in a field eating burgers knowing somewhere a Catholic family is being burned out of their home by "our friends in the north" is not only culpable but cowardly. It also confirms that this affair is very much about poisonous sectarianism. It is possible to express a cultural identity without provoking the other side; and it is important sometimes to refuse to be provoked. This ap-

plies to both sides in Northern Ireland. D E Owens, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks.

MARY Midgley's article was so soothingly rational but it will not cut much ice with the North's pre-enlightenment punters. Ian Paisley and his friends, like squabbling children, should not be allowed to perpetuate the idea they claim to be opposing: that the biggest bully will win in the end. The Government must stand up for the rule of law. Chris Moffat, Derrybrough, Portadown.

TO SEE the Union Jack and Cross of St George being used to justify the Orange Order's activities and law breaking is a disgrace. These people do not speak for me, do not represent the views of the majority of British people, and in no way reflect the policy of our democratically elected Government to bring peace to Northern Ireland. They have no right to use British symbols to defend their bigotry. Sheila Trevor, London.

A FEW years ago in Glasgow, I was rushing to catch a coach back to England. The

Orange march was making its way around the city and I could not circumvent it to get to the coach station, so I attempted to cross the street, through the parade. I was punched in the throat and repeatedly kicked after falling to the ground, before being thrown back on the pavement I had just left.

It strikes me there is a paradox at the centre of the Orangemen's demand: they want to assemble so that they may deny others free assembly. Paul Halfpenny, Aigburth, Liverpool.

AS WE now have our very own "Bosnia" in Northern Ireland — complete with violence, ethnic cleansing and sectarianism — isn't it time that serious consideration should be given to withdrawing our forces and asking the United Nations peacekeeping force to take over? John Dobson, Rochford, Essex.

HOW bizarre that July 13 should be a holiday in Northern Ireland. Presumably this is to encourage loyal Protestants to spend the day celebrating the Battle of the Boyne in style. Jonathan Theobald, Peterborough.

## Viagra arouses passionate debate

CATHERINE Bennett's article on Viagra (Getting it up, July 11) was a perfect example of the female sexism which passes for feminism in the media. She is concerned solely with promoting men's misery rather than women's happiness. This is mixed with puritanical disgust at the idea that older people might have, or even want, sex. I ought to be surprised at this mix of sexism and sexism in a liberal newspaper but, alas, I no longer am. John Rogers, Bristol.

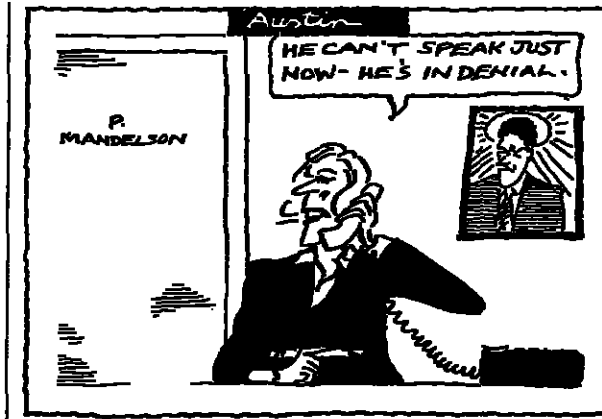
CATHERINE Bennett is right to condemn the ease with which Viagra will be available at the expense of the

NHS to those who fake impotence. But why should real impotence be regarded as a "clinical need"? In a world finding it increasingly difficult to feed all its citizens, surely any natural circumstance which is capable of reducing human reproduction should be welcomed rather than treated as a disease (let alone a curable one). Walter Cairns, Manchester.

VIAGRA may cost the NHS £1 billion. Why? To gain a worthwhile share of the market for treatments for angina (the original intention), the sale price would have to be low. The excessive \$6 per pill for this pharmaceutical fail-

ure (with an unanticipated uplifting effect) can be due solely to the excessive greed of the manufacturer. Uncontrolled market forces should not be allowed to impoverish the NHS in a socialist or social democratic country. Better an impotent head than an impoverished head. Patrick C Souper, Crete, Greece.

ANY risks associated with Viagra should be published, especially on a leaflet in the packet the women will be capable of making their own minds up about the balance of risk. Take it off prescription but perhaps require men to produce an authorising letter from their wives or target women. Ken Baldry, London.



## Mrs Jack's problem with the law

THE jailing of a disabled pensioner (Jail sentence on woman, 70, for poll tax default, July 10) is the latest of a long line of outrageous decisions that have resulted in judicial reviews and the subsequent quashing of committal sentences. The problem is not so much a residue of "refusal" to fight on, years after the death of poll tax, but rather a structural fault in the legislation.

When abolishing the poll tax, the Major administration amended the legislation so that, unless an authority had obtained a liability order within six years of the "bill becoming due", the debt would become unenforceable. No similar amendment was made to the legislation governing cases where the authority has obtained a liability order. Therefore those who "vanished" from the register or managed to avoid a liability order have in effect, being pardoned, while

others, such as Mrs Betty Jack face jail terms because they cannot pay. Mark Newbury, Tyne & Wear.

WHY can local authorities seek to jail people for not paying poll tax when imprisonment for other forms of civil debt has long been abolished? A building society or bank cannot ask the courts to jail someone who owes them money. Nor can private firms, utilities or private individuals. Scotland abolished the archaic power to jail people for non-payment of local government taxes in 1987.

Non-payment of local government taxes should be a matter for the civil, not criminal, courts. Local authorities should have to rely on the same procedures as other bodies seeking to enforce payment against their debtors. Paul Cavadin, Principal officer, NACRO, London.

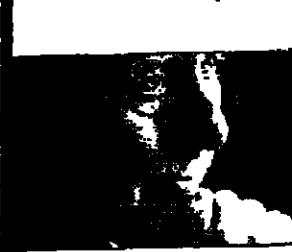
## Our gay son

THE reaction of the parents in your article (I'm gay, mum, 70, in no way reflects that of my wife and I when our son of 16 came out to us earlier this year. Our reaction was one of pride and respect. He came out to us in an intelligent, mature and sensitive way and demonstrated an understanding of his sexuality way beyond that of many heterosexual men

and women of his age. With a small circle of support and gay friendships he has grown in confidence and is a happier and more relaxed individual. He can do that in the knowledge that his parents have no expectations of him other than he is the person that he is, and that happens to be a gay young man. Please withhold my name and address as he has, as yet, only come out to his immediate family and his confidence must be respected. Name and address supplied.

## Endpiece: reasonable doubt

### Roy Hattersley



AS ALWAYS, I refused to sign and, as usual, I stopped to offer a word of support. The campaign against the live export of animals have occupied the Whitehall pavement for as long as I can remember, and I have added my name to their petition a dozen times. I remain an enthusiastic supporter of their cause. But I recalled that the undermined credibility by the discovery that Queen Victoria had endorsed their call for manhood suffrage more than a thousand times

— often in pencil and rarely in the same handwriting. So I intended to smile and pass on. But one of the protesters caught me by the sleeve. At that point, vanity combined with conceit to guarantee my downfall.

Five days earlier, a Sunday newspaper had published my review of Animal Rights, a 1,000 year history of the campaign against cruelty. And I really did expect the lady who barred my path to congratulate me on the position I had taken up. I had quoted the in-refutable view of Jeremy Bentham: "The question is not whether they reason? Nor can they talk? But can they suffer?"

To my surprise and disappointment, instead of initiating a discussion on the relationship between utilitarian philosophy and the lower order of mammals' position within the universe, she handed me a postcard. Courteous as ever, I would have read it — had it not been black on both sides. Noticing my bewilderment, the lady to whom it belonged pointed menacingly at the postage stamp which was attached to

one corner. "What," she asked, "are you going to do about that?"

It is more than 50 years since I seriously considered philatelic design. I recall a Cabinet Committee at which Postmaster Bann announced his intention to shrink the Queen's head and perch it precariously above a pretty picture. But my interest in the subject did not really survive the acquisition of a Penny Black on Christmas Day 1947. So, I struggled to think of something sensible to say. My task was made more difficult by the stamp's wholly unexceptional nature. It neither glorified fox-hunting nor idealised fishing. Two hands — amputated from Michelangelo's Creation, and turned to point up and down rather than side to side — celebrated the foundation of the National Health Service. "Read it," the lady said. The rubric, alongside the hands, was an estimate of how many prescriptions have been dispensed by the nation's pharmacists since 1948. In 50 years, a lot of medicine has flowed

under the bridge. And the lady who ostensibly protested against the live export of animals was absolutely furious about it. "How many of them," she demanded to know, "were necessary? And how many animals were sacrificed in the experiments which discovered cures?" I was forced to confess that I could answer neither question.

For most of my adult life, I

## We are opposed to even gentle fanaticism

have tried to avoid using that tired old poetic cliché about "the best lacking all conviction while the worst are full of passionate intensity". And, I say in my own defence, that I only thought of it then because the lady with the stamp proved it wrong. Her passion was certainly intense and her convictions were visible on her face. But, far from being the worst, she represented the best human in-

stincts of care and compassion. She was simply incapable of keeping her innate decency under control and, as a result, she did her admirable cause incalculable harm.

Yet, the paradox of her position is that, without her risible extremism, the cause would probably wither and die. I may, in my marching days, have demonstrated in favour of moderation, but I cannot recall the occasion. I used to be embarrassed by trade union activists who chanted: "What do we want? Everything. When do we want it? Now." But, on reflection, I realise that the comrades would not have come on to the streets politely to ask for as much as was reasonably possible at the earliest convenient opportunity. In this tight little, right little island we are instinctively opposed even to gentle fanaticism. As the lady told me, most pedestrians pass by the animal export protesters without a word or a glance. On the evidence of the opinion polls, a large majority of this country is opposed to shipping live sheep to Europe

in hot and over-crowded lorries and are, therefore, obvious candidates to sign the Whitehall petition. They hurry on because they are afraid of being caught up in an activity which is either illegal or (far worse) ridiculous. Their outrage needs to be mobilised by something which is more reassuringly reasonable. Unfortunately reasonable people are reluctant to campaign.

If you are looking for this Ruspice to come to one of its usual didactic conclusions, you will look in vain. For I do not know how to bridge the gap between passion and reason and turn the two essential ingredients into outrage. I am not sure if an irrational protest against live animal exports is worse than no protest at all or if it is just intellectual snobbery that makes me embarrassed by the assumption that I would want to suppress a postage stamp. I am, however, sure of one thing. Next time I walk down Whitehall, I shall feel guilty that because of reasonable doubt I do so little to support animal welfare.

## 'Better an impotent few than an impotent health service'

Patrick C Souper, Letters

## In defence of lobbying (it certainly works for us)

LORD Hattersley dismisses lobbying as a disreputable trade (Chat hits the fan, July 9) and suggests that lobbyists for good causes seldom see Ministers or persuade the Government to adopt our policies.

The media has failed to distinguish between the activities of many charities and user groups who engage in lobbying to influence policy and those lobbyists and commercial companies who, for a fee, act for more powerful interests in our society.

Groups lobbying on behalf of disabled people and their carers, often excluded in the formation of policy in the past, have experienced greater political access since this government was elected. We have also experienced success with the announcement by Tony Blair of a National Careers Strategy last month and substantial concessions on disability benefits — all brought about by successful lobbying.

It is not true that this Government is only accessible to commercial lobbyists and their clients via special policy advisers. We talk to special advisers, civil servants and Ministers all the time. I doubt that many commercial lobbyists are in the same position, no matter what they may say to prospective clients. Frances Bates, Deputy chief executive, Carers National Association.

SHORTLY after the general election, Roger Liddle, we are told, increased to 25 per cent his shareholding in the lobbying firm Prima Europe. Although those shares were in a blind trust, given the line of work of Prima Europe, Liddle's position as a Downing Street adviser would increase their value — especially if privileged access to Ministers were granted to Prima Europe clients.

Liddle should not have placed his shares in Prima Europe in a blind trust: he should have sold them. But what were Labour doing employing an adviser someone with close ties to a lobbying firm? The potential for conflict of interest existed in Opposition and has been compounded in office. Cllr Peter Forrest, Conservative Group Leader, Haringey council, London.

NOTE that the Labour Party's new general secretary has a master's degree in advanced marketing (On-message McDonagh confirmed as first woman in charge of Labour, July 10). No doubt she will soon be moving on to a PhD in complete bullshit. Mike Pokorny, St Albans, Herts.

The Country Diary can be found on Page 14

## Himalayas for Free? (you'll pay for it!)

So you think you like a challenge? How about trekking for six days in the Himalayas in May 1999? You'll have to cover 100km and reach an altitude of 13,500ft. You'll trek the foothills of the highest mountains in the world, follow the path of Tibetan pilgrims and experience the sights and sounds of Kathmandu. You'll raise money for children who can't walk and for whom getting out of the front door is a major expedition. You'll only need a week off work. If you're willing, able and free next May, then this trip of a lifetime is for you. Are you up for the Challenge? If you are, start dialling as places are limited.

0990 112219

Whizz-kidz

THE MOVEMENT FOR NON-MOBILE CHILDREN  
Whizz-Kidz is a Registered Charity No. 802872



Sir Charles Cunningham

# Civilised servant

**S**IR CHARLES Cunningham, who has died aged 92, was an outstanding example of the high fliers who entered the Civil Service between the wars. From 1946-56, he served successively as the head of the Scottish Home Department and of the Home Office, exercising in both posts the calm competence and determined acceptance of personal responsibility that were the hallmarks of his career.

Cunningham early displayed his mental powers, carrying off the prizes at the Harris Academy in Dundee and then at St Andrew's University, where he graduated with first-class honours in English and German in 1929.

In 1929, he entered the Civil Service and was happily assigned to the Scottish Office, then a tiny department of state, beginning the task (not completed till 1939) of taking over the functions previously discharged by separate boards. Cunningham was to play a leading part in making Whitehall take the Scottish Office seriously.

By 1935, he had become private secretary to the Secretary of State, serving, in succession, Sir Godfrey Collins, Colonel Water Elliott and Sir John Colville. These were formative years for Cunningham, in daily contact with senior politicians of widely differing backgrounds. All of them, however, had been marked by their war-time experiences and were one-time Tories with whom Cunningham, a humane and liberal man, did not find it difficult to empathise.

This prolonged exposure to the views and styles of three senior ministers must have been of the first importance in forming Cunningham's dis-

tinctive personal way of conducting government business. In common with most of their colleagues, these cabinet ministers believed that their chief functions were to decide policy questions, and to conduct business in parliament. The implementation of policy and the management of their departments was for their civil servants, who would bring to their notice any necessary questions of policy.

Cunningham was promoted to be an assistant secretary in the Scottish Home Department in 1939. During the second world war, he worked

more tartan Home Office. As John Gibson wrote in *The Thistle and the Crown*, "...the department was simultaneously expanding in many diverse directions—children and fisheries; industry and prison improvement; hydro-electricity and police training; highland policy and local government finance; tourism and liaison with the Scottish Committee of the Arts Council... Small though it was, Cunningham was insistent that it must never have even the slightest hesitation in laying itself alongside the armada of Whitehall. To sail in

organisation and machinery, and under Cunningham valuable improvements were made. On the personnel side, the organisation was greatly strengthened and Cunningham's judgments in this area were well received.

On the criminal side an effective structure was introduced; the Office began to develop a more scientific and studied approach, encouraging the formation of the Cambridge Institute of Criminology, funding research work elsewhere and developing its own research unit. A parliamentary branch was estab-

lished to support ministers and their private offices who had hitherto handled parliamentary work in a rather hand-to-mouth way. The Frison Commission, under Cunningham's leadership, was sent to the Home Office, to considerable advantage. Cunningham left the Home Office better equipped than he found it.

Cunningham's personal style—a style made possible only by his prodigious capacity for work—married with traditional Home Office views led eventually to severe differences with Roy Jenkins. This was a clash with a minister who took a very different view of his role from that of the ministers with whom Cunningham had worked in his most formative years.

James Stuart, the influential Scottish secretary of state, who had supported Cunningham's move to the Home Office had been in the same mould as his pre-war predecessors. Cunningham continued his personal practice into the much larger department. With Home Secretaries Butler, Frank Soskice and Henry Brooke this had not proved too great a problem.

Jenkins was of a different breed, a minister who wanted to be a political executive, concerned with execution as well as policy. He did not want to be told how his policy applied to the facts. He wanted options from which he could himself decide the right course of action, not a single recommendation from Cunningham, however well reasoned and presented.

In the result, Cunningham retired earlier than he would have wished; but he went on to give distinguished service as deputy chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and as chairman of the Uganda Resettlement Board. It was a tribute to his humanity and his reputation for administrative competence that he was given this last sensitive task.

His long and happy marriage ended with the death of his wife Edith in 1990. Thereafter he returned to Edinburgh, where he looked after himself until his last illness. He is survived by his two daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in whom he took much pleasure.

Archie Renzie

Charles Craik Cunningham, civil servant, born May 7, 1906; died July 7, 1998



Cunningham... the epitome of a departed style of civil servant

*'Said Charles Craik Cunningham  
och, och, I fair enjoy running 'em,  
even their best yins,  
cannae answer a' ma questions'*

closely with the outstanding Labour politician in Scotland, Tom Johnston, who had been persuaded by Churchill to take on the office of Secretary of State in 1941. Johnston was well-suited to the political direction of the Home Front, and he was also highly effective in stimulating preparations for post-war reconstruction. In both areas, there were major contributions from Cunningham and the war-time unity of purpose with his busy and hard-

pressed ministers no doubt further encouraged his personal way of working. He thought problems through to a conclusion in accordance with the minister's policies, on the minister's behalf. Cunningham became head of his department in 1948. Under him, the Scottish Home Department was no

convey at the policy planning stage if possible; to engage in close combat if necessary."

In 1967, Cunningham was transferred to the Home Office as permanent under-secretary of state where he served in his own highly distinctive way until 1966. The work of the Home Office's resident master of the Clerihew captures his impact:

*'Said Charles Craik Cunningham  
och, och, I fair enjoy running 'em,  
even their best yins,  
cannae answer a' ma questions'*

The language is caricature but the concern that Cunningham's rigorous approach could arouse is unmistakable.

Cunningham's predecessor at the Home Office, Sir Frank Newsum, had not been noted for his concern for matters of

lished to support ministers and their private offices who had hitherto handled parliamentary work in a rather hand-to-mouth way. The Frison Commission, under Cunningham's leadership, was sent to the Home Office, to considerable advantage. Cunningham left the Home Office better equipped than he found it.

Cunningham's personal style—a style made possible only by his prodigious capacity for work—married with traditional Home Office views led eventually to severe differences with Roy Jenkins. This was a clash with a minister who took a very different view of his role from that of the ministers with whom Cunningham had worked in his most formative years.

James Stuart, the influential Scottish secretary of state, who had supported Cunningham's move to the Home Office had been in the same mould as his pre-war predecessors. Cunningham continued his personal practice into the much larger department. With Home Secretaries Butler, Frank Soskice and Henry Brooke this had not proved too great a problem.

Jenkins was of a different breed, a minister who wanted to be a political executive, concerned with execution as well as policy. He did not want to be told how his policy applied to the facts. He wanted options from which he could himself decide the right course of action, not a single recommendation from Cunningham, however well reasoned and presented.

In the result, Cunningham retired earlier than he would have wished; but he went on to give distinguished service as deputy chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and as chairman of the Uganda Resettlement Board. It was a tribute to his humanity and his reputation for administrative competence that he was given this last sensitive task.

His long and happy marriage ended with the death of his wife Edith in 1990. Thereafter he returned to Edinburgh, where he looked after himself until his last illness. He is survived by his two daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in whom he took much pleasure.

Archie Renzie

Charles Craik Cunningham, civil servant, born May 7, 1906; died July 7, 1998

Bernhard Häring

## Prophet of the theology of freedom



Häring... faithful to Christ all his life but free in thought after his time as a medical orderly in Hitler's army

**L**IKE most priests of his time, the theologian Bernhard Häring, who has died aged 85, was trained according to the strictest interpretation of law and obedience. But the second world war changed everything: from then on his thinking and writing embraced pacifism and ecumenism.

Häring's genius was to take the best of a more generous Catholic tradition and of contemporary scholarship to the problems of the day. It seems an almost trite achievement, now, but in the 1950s, when Catholic theology was aridly protective of the status quo, Häring was revolutionary.

The second youngest of the 12 children of a Catholic family in Bittlingen, Germany, he joined the Redemptorist Congregation in 1933. He presumed that his life would follow the accepted pattern for that religious order: conducting parish missions which sought to revive faith through robust preaching and confession of sin.

His forced conscription in November 1939, as a medical orderly of Hitler's army, shaped his life. The futility of war made him a pacifist, and living with Lutheran comrades as well as (illegally) consorting with Orthodox Russians stirred a lifelong

passion for ecumenism. In war he discovered the value of freedom of conscience, the right meaning of responsible obedience and a mature approach to law. Including Church law. The experience showed him the futility of the theological textbooks he had used and sowed the seeds of his passion for freedom and commitment to dialogue in the search for moral truth.

These insights, new for Catholic theology of the time, needed an intellectual framework. A study of the social thinking of Max Weber, the phenomenologist Friedrich Schlegelmacher and the personalist philosopher Max Scheler, provided this for Häring.

When his seminal work *The Law of Christ* was published in 1954, it became a bestseller in Germany and was translated into 10 languages. It was the death-knell of a 300-year-old system of moral training in Catholic seminaries. In sense: not a notably analytic thinker, he had the gifted preacher's ability to concentrate on the essentials. Freedom, conscience, responsibility: he returned constantly to these themes, notably in his second major synthesis, *Free and Faithful in Christ* (1978). He was not the first modern Catholic theologian

Pope John XXIII in 1963 and the calling of the Second Vatican Council (1962-65) not only vindicated Häring's approach, but gave the Church a rare moment of grace to incorporate a theologian's thinking into official doctrine.

Häring remained intensely loyal to the Church, but also committed to the hard-won freedoms and dignity of conscience of modern believers. This double loyalty was especially evident in his courageous response to *Humanae Vitae* and the subsequent storm in the Catholic Church. Again, his war experience stood him in good stead in this difficult prophetic role: he had confronted his Nazi masters in the name of conscience and freedom, and he was not going to allow lesser churchmen to deprive the Christian world of the true liberty of faith.

For Roman Catholics, Häring's ethical thinking represents a liberation from clerical control and is the harbinger of a different approach: more Biblical, more responsible, more contemporary. His revolution has been welcomed outside his own Church.

Raphael Gallagher

Bernhard Häring, born November 10, 1912; died July 3, 1998

Alec Robins

## Cryptic custodian

**C**ROSSWORD puzzles were first set in the UK in the 1920s when Alec Robins, who has died aged 80, was still a schoolboy. Robins, who became Custos of the Guardian, was there at the start. Crosswords were a lifelong interest and an art form he helped shape.

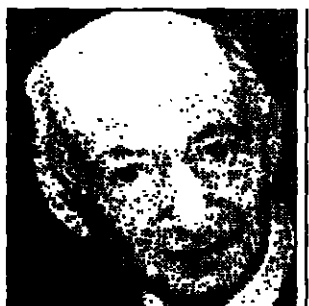
Robins was a Manchester man, born and educated there. His "day job" was teaching classics at schools in the area. His interest in crosswords took hold when he was in hospital after the second world war, and he became a serious solver and setter. He joined a pantheon of classicists associated with the more difficult puzzles: the late Poynter Mather (Torquemada of the Observer), A F Ritchie (Afric of the Listener) then in his prime and the rising crossword star, and Derrick Macnutt, known as Ximenes, successor to Torquemada.

Crosswords were increasingly popular in a world trying to get back to its armchair, but clues were often ungrammatical or unfair or unhelpful. Afric more or less

invented the concept of clue-manship governing what is and what is not fair in cryptic clues, and Robins elaborated on it. First through his association with Ximenes, culminating in *Ximenes on the Art of the Crossword* (1975).

Over his career, Robins was Zander in the Listener, where he introduced many novel puzzles. In the Observer he was a half of Everyman for 33 years, alternating months of setting, mostly with Dorothy Taylor. To Guardian readers he was the classical guardian, Custos, keeping watch over the standards with an eagle eye and working for a crossword editor who never needed to edit a clue. What you could count on from Robins was precision, grammatical accuracy, and a concern for the "average" solver. His only misdeed was that I knew of his clue "Crete given, for a change, a deputy", which led to two possible answers in a grid with i-e-e-t: viceregent and vicereger.

At crossword dinners, Alec was well known as a kindly



Robins... he made the rules about what was fair or not

gentleman who encouraged brash young things. A few years ago some of us gave him our vote as the crossword setter's crossword setter in the Observer feature. In the outside world, he never quite established the reputation he deserved. When Ximenes died he was passed over in favour of the young Jonathan Crowther (Azed), and among Guardian solvers he was never quite as popular as Arcaucaria, whose ideas he loved but whose clues he often loathed. Nevertheless his influence was enormous. "Cruci-verbalism" has lost its elder statesman.

He is survived by his wife Anne, whom he nursed devotedly over many years.

Don Marley

Alec (Alexander) Robins, teacher and crossword setter, born September 7, 1917; died June 28, 1998

Vronwy Hankey

## Egypt's immortal clay

**V**RONWY Hankey, who has died aged 81, was a distinguished archaeologist on the Aegean and East Mediterranean.

She began her research in Greece in 1938 after finishing at Girton College, Cambridge, where she had read classics. The vicissitudes of war, marriage and children interrupted her studies for several years, but she managed to publish a major article on the Mycenaean (Late Bronze Age) pottery of Buboe in 1952. It was the first of a series of important papers (some will appear posthumously) which grew out of years of studying and handling Mycenaean and Minoan pottery. Hankey became an expert on the technology of Aegean pottery, helped by a practical collaboration with her daughter, Veronica Newman, a potter.

Identifying Mycenaean and Minoan ceramic exports to Egypt and the Near East was the basis for researching the connections between the regions. Her reassessment of Mycenaean pottery from the Pharaoh Akhenaten's capital at El Amarna to a later time phase had immediate repercussions on dating the Mycenaean. This led to research in Aegean chronology, still dependent on East Mediter-

anean connections, culminating in her book, with Peter Vaux, *Aegean Bronze Age Chronology* (1989).

Hankey grew up in the rectory at Stilton where her father taught her—as she would later teach her own children—until she went to Cambridge. She had married in 1941 Henry Hankey, youngest son of Lord Hankey and a diplomat, whom she accompanied on all his foreign postings. The Hankeys shared a shared sense of the ludicrous: Henry drew them as cartoons. Vronwy was a superlative storyteller. She used to tell people that in Rome, soon after the war, it seemed only natural that the only hot water in the bathroom came out of the lavatory.

In each foreign posting, Hankey threw herself into the life and culture of the country, and learnt the language—including Arabic in Beirut (1962-66). She had an open and affectionate view of people, and had friends all round the world who loved her as much for her zest for life and inquiry as for her unhesitating readiness to share her knowledge of archaeology, or places or plants—or to join in the chores or a party.

In 1970, she returned to her beloved Greece for what would become many seasons of study and excavation, when she and Cressida Ridley—a powerful duo—joined my team at a new British school of Athens dig at Myrto-Pyrgos on the south coast of Crete. We had a fabulous time. The two women gave ballast and humour, and carried on doggedly when the younger members of the team flagged.

She also started lecturing on Swan Hellenic Cruises, proving a brilliant communicator. They led to Nile cruises—and those, in turn, to her expertise in Egyptology and her important work on the pottery from el Amarna (for which she became an honorary fellow of University College London).

Vronwy Hankey carried on with all these activities, and with being the warmest-hearted friend, and grandmother of 11 by her three sons and one daughter. When I told a colleague of her death, he replied: "She wasn't the dying sort."

Gerald Cadogan

Vronwy Mary Hankey, archaeologist, born September 15, 1916; died May 11, 1998

A Country Diary

**RUA REIGH LIGHTHOUSE, WESTER ROSS:** The minke whale is a difficult beast to try to convey. By the standards of the rest of its awesome family, the six species of rorqual whale, it is not so remarkable. The adults average 8.9 metres in length and weigh around 5.7 tonnes. Compare this with the 26 metres and 100 tonnes of its relative, the blue whale, and a minke seems a mere baby.

But when we saw them recently at the magical Rua Reigh Lighthouse, they were big enough to leave us gasping with excitement. They are the largest mammal you are likely to see from British soil, and the stretch of Atlantic known as the Minch, between the Hebridean island of Lewis and the Scottish mainland, is an excellent place to observe them.

When we visited, a combination of uninterrupted sunshine and any ocean panorama which was as calm as a South Sea lagoon were nearly perfect conditions for watching cetaceans.

Most of the time the minke simply rose to

breath, appearing as a long convex line of black at the surface. Occasionally, we caught a spout of misty spray and just once—for several glorious seconds—a minke rose from the waters, its whole upper body thrusting skywards in one almighty surge.

How extraordinary to think that further north the Norwegians are still hunting minke for their blubber. One Norwegian foreign minister referred to the minke as "rats of the sea" and accused them of "taking fish from fishermen".

In defiance of the International Whaling Commission, the Norwegians set their quota at 871 in 1995. This is based on their 1995 estimate of the North Atlantic population at 118,000—a census widely condemned as grossly exaggerating true numbers.

To give you an idea of the imprecision of whale estimates, in one area of the Barents Sea, sightings of just 29 whales were the basis for a calculation in that area of a population of 16,101 minke.

MARK COCKER

## CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

IN OUR magazine, *Guardian* Weekend, July 11, in an article which began on Page 20, headed *Playing it cool*, we said that in the World Cup, France "twice reached the semi-finals before this year's campaign, in 1982 and 1986" (he based on both occasions by Germany)... They actually reached the semi-finals for the first time in 1982 when they were beaten 5-2 by Brazil (Pelé scored a hat-trick).

OUR OBITUARY of Bill Brooks, Page 22, July 9, had his age wrong. He was born in 1916 (not 1911), making him 82 when he died (not 87). Apologies.

## Birthdays

Thierry Boutsen, racing driver, 41; Karen Brown, deputy director of programmes, 44; Lee Copper-wheat, fashion designer, 32; Moses Evans, trades unionist, 73; Harrison Ford, actor, 58; Larry Gomes, cricketer, 45; Ian Hislop, editor, Private Eye, 38; Chris Holmes, director, Shelter, 56; Peter Job, managing-director and chief executive, Reuters, 57; Roger McGinnis, rock singer, 56; Prof Gillian France, director, New Gardens, 61; Dr Patricia Rodgers, diplomat, 50; Prof Janet Rossant, biologist, 49; Erno Rubik, inventor of the cube, 54; Chris Serle, broadcaster, 55; Rachel Squire, Labour MP, 44; Patrick Stewart, actor, 58; David Storey, playwright, 65; Prof Jeff Thompson, chairman, British Association for the Advancement of Science, 60; Sir Garfield Todd, former prime minister, Southern Rhodesia, 90; Simone Vell, stateswoman, 71.

## Death Notices

BARNOW, George Gordon, loving and devoted husband of Sheila and father of Catherine and George. Former Lord Mayor of Birmingham and past President of The Birmingham Law Society. Died peacefully at home, 5, Jelfs Road, Edgbaston, on Monday 5 August at 4pm. At Friends Meeting House, 101, Broad Street, Birmingham. Burial at St. Martin's Church, 101, Broad Street, Birmingham. Friends, House, 173-177, Euston Road, London NW1 2EL.

## Memorial Services

ADAMS, Professor Gerald. A service of thanksgiving for the life of Gerald Adams will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Redgrave Road, Northwood, Middlesex, at 3pm on Monday 20th July. Telephone 01823 62811 or 01252 53310 for further details.

## Births

CLAYTON, On 4th July, 1998, at York, Deirdre Hospital, to Karen (nee Cassin) and Richard, a daughter, Emma Danielle.

## Birthdays

To Jeremy Augustus Earle, a brave and beautiful girl, Henry (Brendan) Love, Hugo & Jesse, Jonathan.

WTO place your announcement telephone 0171 733 4847 or 020 7173 7173 between 8am and 3pm Mon-Fri.



Executive Financial Editor: Ben Clissitt  
Financial Editor: Alex Brummer  
Telephone: 0171-238-9810  
Fax: 0171-333-4456

# FinanceGuardian

Foreign corporations triple their previous outlay in buying up British rivals

## Predators move in on UK plc

Ian King

**B**RITAIN is confirmed as Europe's most popular target for foreign predators, with takeovers of UK companies breaking all records in the first half of the year.

The cost to foreign companies over the six months was more than three times the amount they spent for the corresponding period a year earlier, according to a survey published today by corporate financiers at KPMG, the accountancy firm.

In all, foreign companies spent \$28.2 billion on British firms, including names like Energy Group, which was bought by Texas Utilities, and engineer T&A, which was snapped up by Federal-Mogul.

The figure emphasises Britain's importance as a bridgehead into the European market.

Leading the way among the predators were American companies, which made 144 acquisitions during the period, spending \$18.2 billion in the process. The Swiss were the next biggest spenders.

Apart from utilities, such as Energy Group, the most popular areas for acquisitions were food, and motor manufacture, even before last week's completion of the sale

of Rolls-Royce Motors by Vickers to Volkswagen.

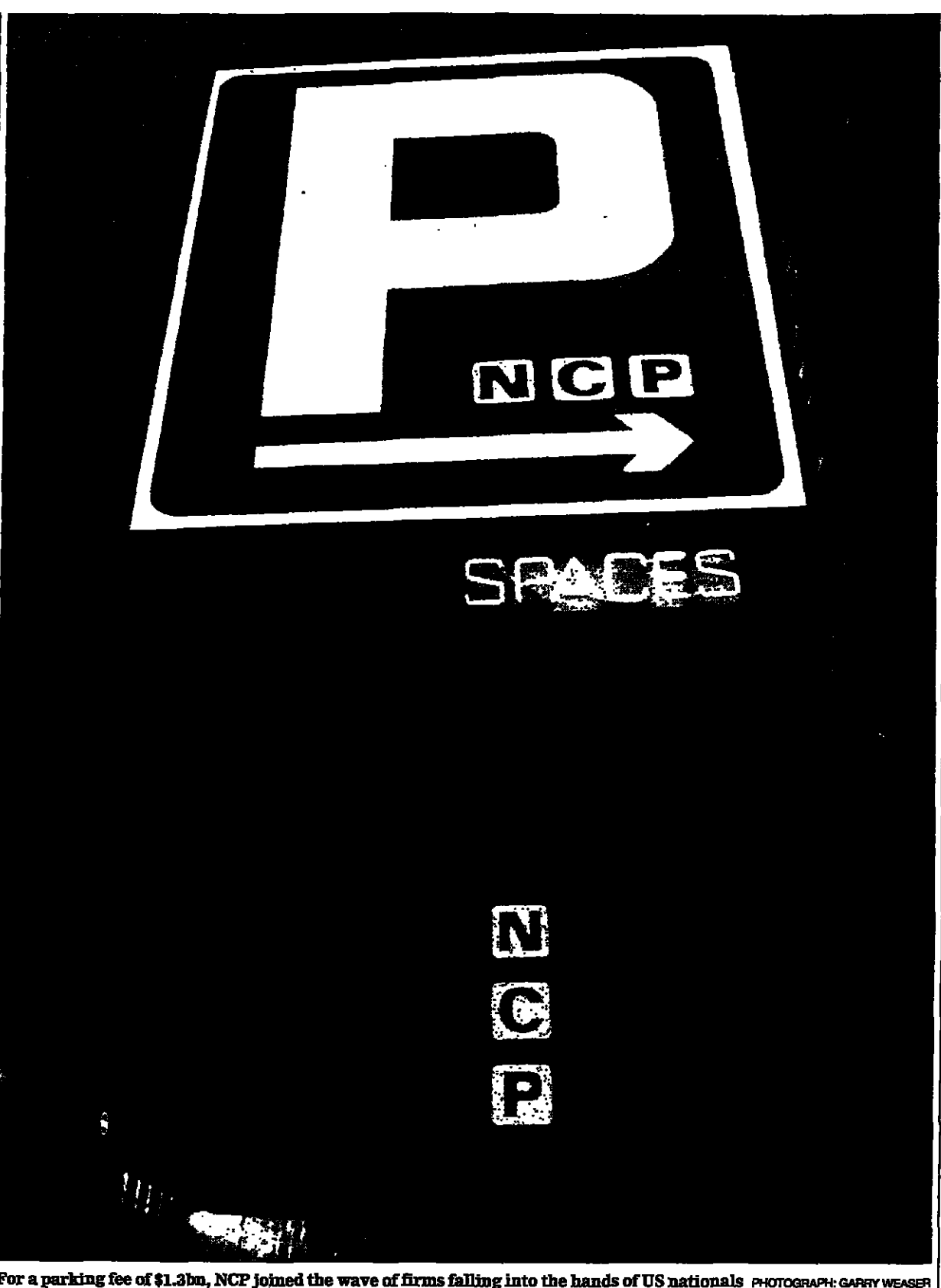
The upsurge of foreign takeover activity in Britain means that it dwarfs the \$16.8 billion spent by British companies on overseas acquisitions. Companies in the US, Netherlands and Germany were the most popular targets.

KPMG said the figures reflected the general pick-up in cross-border deals in Europe.

Stephen Barratt, head of mergers and acquisitions at KPMG corporate finance, said: "Britain's position as the number one destination in Europe for international corporate acquirers seems secure. Owing out of the first wave of monetary union seems to have done nothing to stem the buying spree in the UK."

"Other EU countries are slowly becoming more attractive to international companies, as deregulation and market liberalisation spreads. But it is still the case that multinational firms feel more comfortable with the UK's more open and efficient economy."

However, the deals involving foreign takeovers of UK companies are small potatoes compared with global takeover activity, with \$788 billion (\$472 billion) worth of mergers and takeovers completed by the first week of May.



For a parking fee of \$1.3bn, NCP joined the wave of firms falling into the hands of US nationals. PHOTOGRAPH: GARRY WEASER

### Home losses

Target	Buyer	Country	Value \$ (billions)
Energy Group	Texas Utilities	US	10.40
BTR's glass/plastic packing	Owens Illinois	US	3.60
T&A	Federal-Mogul	US	2.40
Allied Colloids	Novartis	Switz.	2.31
Dewar's Scotch/Bombay gin	Bacardi	Bermuda	1.93
Perkins Engines	Caterpillar	US	1.83
National Parking Corp.	Concord	US	1.30
Orange (16.11 per cent)	Swiss Bank	Switz.	1.28
Spillers Petfoods	Nestle	Switz.	1.18
Comcast UK	NTL	US	1.00

Source: KPMG Corporate Finance

### Away wins

Target	Buyer	Country	Value \$ (billions)
Simon & Schuster	Pearson	US	4.60
Matthew Bender	Reed Elsevier	US	1.95
Island Steel	Legat Int.	US	1.48
Tracor Inc	GEC	US	1.36
TNOC	Guardian Royal	Netherlands	1.15
Products Div/Formica Corp	CVC Capital	Australia	1.10
Douwe Egberts Van Nolle	Imperial Tobacco	Netherlands	1.08
Koninklijke KNP	Cliven	Netherlands	0.85
Metro Mail	GUS	US	0.83
MCI - Internet operations	Cable & Wireless	US	0.63

Source: KPMG Corporate Finance

## Low inflation fails to stem corporate greed

Larry Elliott  
Economics Editor

**H**OPES that British firms would respond to lower inflation by setting less exacting pay-back targets for big capital projects were confounded today by a report showing little change in investment thinking since the gyrations of the boom-bust cycle a decade ago.

British companies have paid little heed to the move towards price stability in the 1990s and are demanding high returns over short pay-back periods before sanctioning capital spending decisions.

Expectations that an era of greater price stability with the tax changes in Chancellor Gordon Brown's first Budget would lead to lower hurdle rates for investment were scotched in a survey by the Confederation of British Industry and the Association of Consulting Actuaries.

Mr Brown believes that low investment is one of the main reasons for sluggish economic performance, and that macroeconomic stability and a tax regime less biased towards dividends will encourage capital spending.

But the study found that on average, firms expected projects to generate a real rate of return of 17.6 per cent with a pay-back period of between two and four years — little change, said the CBI, from its 1994 survey.

Although fewer firms were setting themselves targets of 20 per cent than four years ago, the report said that "hurdle rates are often set higher than expected on the basis of underlying theory".

Chris Waites of the ACA said a hurdle rate of between 12 and 13 per cent would be right for most projects, and there was a risk that the task of hitting targets was leading to investment in high-risk but potentially lucrative projects at the expense of bread and butter capital spending.

Only 2 per cent of the 336 respondents said that the scrapping of Advance Corporation Tax credit on UK divi-

dends for pension funds and the reduction in the rate of corporation tax would lead to higher investment.

Ninety per cent said Mr Brown's initiative would make no difference, while 8 per cent said investment would be lower.

However, the survey did not test the Treasury's expectation that tax changes will encourage firms to take a long-term view — and the report acknowledged that it was likely to be some time before they adapted.

Businesses based in wealthier countries increased direct investments by nearly a fifth to \$355 billion (\$215 billion) last year, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development said yesterday.

Direct investment flowing into OECD countries rose 16 per cent to \$355 billion. The Asian crisis had not reduced international corporate expansion, and may instead have boosted direct investment into the countries affected, the survey said.

Separately, an independent forecaster warned today that rates may not have peaked, despite the decision to leave them on hold last week.

"There is every chance that short-term interest rates will be pushed up further, increasing the risk of a 'hard landing'," says Oxford Economic Forecasting's report.

"Stagflation threatens to rear its ugly head again in the UK, with a combination of rising wage inflation and a beleaguered manufacturing sector posing increasingly difficult issues for the monetary policy committee."

## Pessimism goes wholesale

Charlotte Denry

**B**USINESS confidence has hit its lowest level since the end of the last recession as pessimism spreads from manufacturing into the services sector, according to a new report.

Firms are bracing themselves for another interest-rate rise from the Bank of England, says the Dun & Bradstreet survey. The 1,400 finance and managing directors were questioned in June following the Bank raised rates to 7.5 per cent.

Sales expectations dropped 19 percentage points to their lowest level since 1992. Confidence is lowest in the manufacturing heartland of the Midlands, but firms in the services sector are also becoming increasingly gloomy.

Philip Mellor, D&B's senior analyst, said: "As more firms expect further increases in interest rates, so gloom has spread from exporters into the domestic economy."

"For the first time in years the survey has shown a severe drop in confidence among the service, retail and wholesale sectors."

But Ms Stamford will tell shareholders today that switching to wind or wave power is also in the interests of the company.

## PowerGen facing a storm over policies

Roger Cowe

**F**RIENDS of the Earth members are to demonstrate outside PowerGen's shareholders meeting in Birmingham today in an attempt to convince the electricity generator to plough more money into wind power and other alternative energy sources.

Anna Stamford, Friends of the Earth energy campaigner, said only 0.1 per cent of the electricity produced by PowerGen came from renewable sources.

"Eastern Group has a commitment to produce 10 per cent of its output from renewables by the year 2010," she said. "We want PowerGen to invest more, whether that's in offshore wind farms, biomass or wave power."

She said PowerGen's green credentials had become more important since its recent takeover of East Midlands electricity, which had brought the group into consumer markets.

"There is definitely a market opening up for renewable energy," she said. "But so far PowerGen has just talked about prices."

Friends of the Earth believes that some fossil fuel generation will have to be replaced by renewable energy if Britain is to achieve targets for the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions agreed at the Kyoto summit last year.

But Ms Stamford will tell shareholders today that switching to wind or wave power is also in the interests of the company.

## New model puts Jaguar back in jobs market

Nicholas Barnister, Chief Business Correspondent

**J**AGUAR, which cut its workforce from 12,000 to 4,500 after its takeover by Ford, has started to take on workers to build a new medium-sized car.

The company forecasts sales this year of more than 50,000 vehicles — beating the previous peak of 49,494 in the year before the Ford bid — and expects to sell substantially more next year when the S-type reaches the showrooms.

A company spokesman said the sale of its current models, the XJ6 saloon and the XK8 sports car, had been particularly strong during the first half of the year and would set a new record if the luxury car market held up.

Hundreds of new workers will eventually be needed at its Castle Bromwich plant in the West Midlands.

A spokesman said: "The S-type, which will go on sale early next year, falls into the market sector which we had to ourselves in the 1960s with the Mark II Jaguar but then moved out of to concentrate on the large luxury car and sports car sectors."

Jaguar is due to move to four-model production in 2001 with the introduction of a baby Jaguar, codenamed the X400. However the X400 is due to be built at a former Ford plant at Halewood and is unlikely to lead to new jobs.

Current sales have been particularly strong in Germany and the US.

Jaguar is embarking on a heavy marketing campaign to introduce the S-type. This has included a direct mail shot to more than one million potential customers and corporate advertising on television for the first time in more than six years.

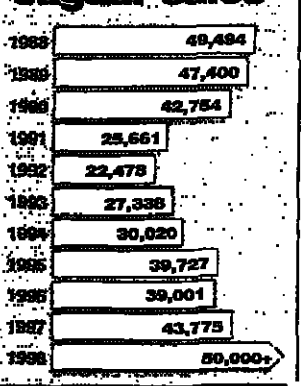
While Jaguar is cruising towards record sales, BMW-owned Rover is struggling to cope with the strong pound. The company, which last year exported 56 per cent of its production, said sales about the same level as last year.

A spokesman said the group had increased the level of components it bought in from abroad and was seeking to cut costs. He denied reports of plans to cut jobs in the summer.

However the contracts of the several hundred temporary workers taken on to help launch production of the Freelander at the Land Rover works at Solihull would not be renewed.

● Vickers has finally agreed to sell its Cosworth high performance engine business to Volkswagen's Audi subsidiary for \$117 million, subject to approval from the European regulatory authorities.

### Jaguar sales



### American Notebook

## Magic Kingdom is degraded



Mark Tran

**T**INA BROWN's departure from New Yorker magazine for Miramax Films, a Walt Disney company, comes at a frustrating moment for the Magic Kingdom because of plodding performance of its Capital Cities/ABC television arm, disappointing films and weak merchandise sales in Asia.

Adding insult to injury, the Texas board of education last Friday voted to shed its \$45 million (\$27 million) stake in Disney in protest at what it considers to be a surfeit of sex and violence.

The board chairman, Jack Christie, said he was finally convinced to dump Disney after seeing clips from the Oscar-winning Pulp Fiction, produced by Miramax four years ago.

"It's not Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck anymore," grumbled one board member, "it's blowing people's heads off."

The Texas board of education and Southern Baptists, who are disgruntled at Disney's supposedly liberal policy on gays and lesbians, are the least of Disney's problems.

More serious is the continuing slump at ABC. For several years, the television network has failed to produce significant hits to match successes such as Ally McBeal and The X-Files at Rupert Murdoch's Fox television. The lack of a hit series has in turn weakened advertising revenue.

lowed that of Geraldine Laybourne as president of Disney/ABC Cable to start her own production company.

Disney insists that it has enough management depth to overcome these high-level losses, but the departures highlight what is called the Eisner Syndrome — his inability to keep top talent.

In recent years, Disney has lost Jeffrey Katzenberg, who stormed off after being passed over for the number two job, Michael Ovitz, who quit with a golden parachute worth more than \$100 million. Other important but less-known executives such as Rich Frank and Richard Nunn have also gone elsewhere.

On top of ABC's uninspiring performance, Disney has this year failed to repeat the film successes of 1997 such as 101 Dalmatians and The English Patient. Disney's prestige films this year — Robert Redford's The Horse Whisperer, Harrison Ford's Six Days and Seven Nights and He Got Game with Denzel Washington — have been damp squibs.

Disney's summer hopes are now pinned on Mulan, a cartoon about a Chinese girl warrior, and Armageddon, the summer's second movie about a giant asteroid on a collision course with Earth.

**A**NALYSTS have pared back profit estimates. David Londoner of Schroder, has sharply revised estimates for Disney's creative content arm (films and videos), the studio's biggest generator of profits. For the third quarter, Mr Londoner has reduced profit projections by 35 per cent to about \$167 million.

A sharp decline in merchandise sales in Asia adds to the gloom. On the plus side, Disney can expect a lift in its theme park business with the opening of Animal Kingdom, near Orlando, Florida, although here again, business may have been less than stellar because of fires that raged for weeks in the state that Disney has a large stake in.

Despite all its problems, Disney, which split its stock three-for-one on Friday, still increased by 15.5 per cent this year, about the same as the Dow Jones Industrial Average. But analysts are not looking for any more big increases in Disney's share price for the time being.

Undeterred by its difficulties, Disney is nevertheless plunging into new ventures.

Last month it acquired a 43 per cent stake in Infoseek, the Internet search engine, plus an option to buy another 10 per cent in exchange for about \$200 million.

Earlier Disney had decided to buy the two-thirds that it did not already own of Starwave, a Web publisher.

Tina Brown is joining Miramax to publish books and a magazine, and produce films and television. It will be her job to inaugurate projects for the vast Disney empire. Ms Brown is Disney's latest attempt at synergy, still an unrealised concept for Mr Eisner. As long as Disney remains less than the sum of its parts, shareholders who have bristled at Mr Eisner's salary of almost \$245 million last year — will only get grumpier.

Mr Burke's departure followed a similar pattern to that of Geraldine Laybourne as president of Disney/ABC Cable to start her own production company.

## Diageo tequila row 'no crisis'

Ian King and Lisa Buckingham

**D**IAGEO, the world's biggest spirits company, is playing down talk of a crisis in its distribution arm, following news last week of a dispute with Jose Cuervo, the world's biggest tequila-maker.

Diageo, which distributes 36 million litres a year of Jose Cuervo in North America, is fighting an attempt by the Mexican group to renegotiate the terms of a distribution agreement which extends until 2010.

But there have been suggestions in the drinks industry that Diageo — formed last year from the \$24 billion merger between Guinness and GrandMet — could face problems with other similar deals, notably a UK agreement with Brown Forman, maker of Southern Comfort and Jack Daniels.

Cuervo, which previously had a distribution agreement with GrandMet, is arguing

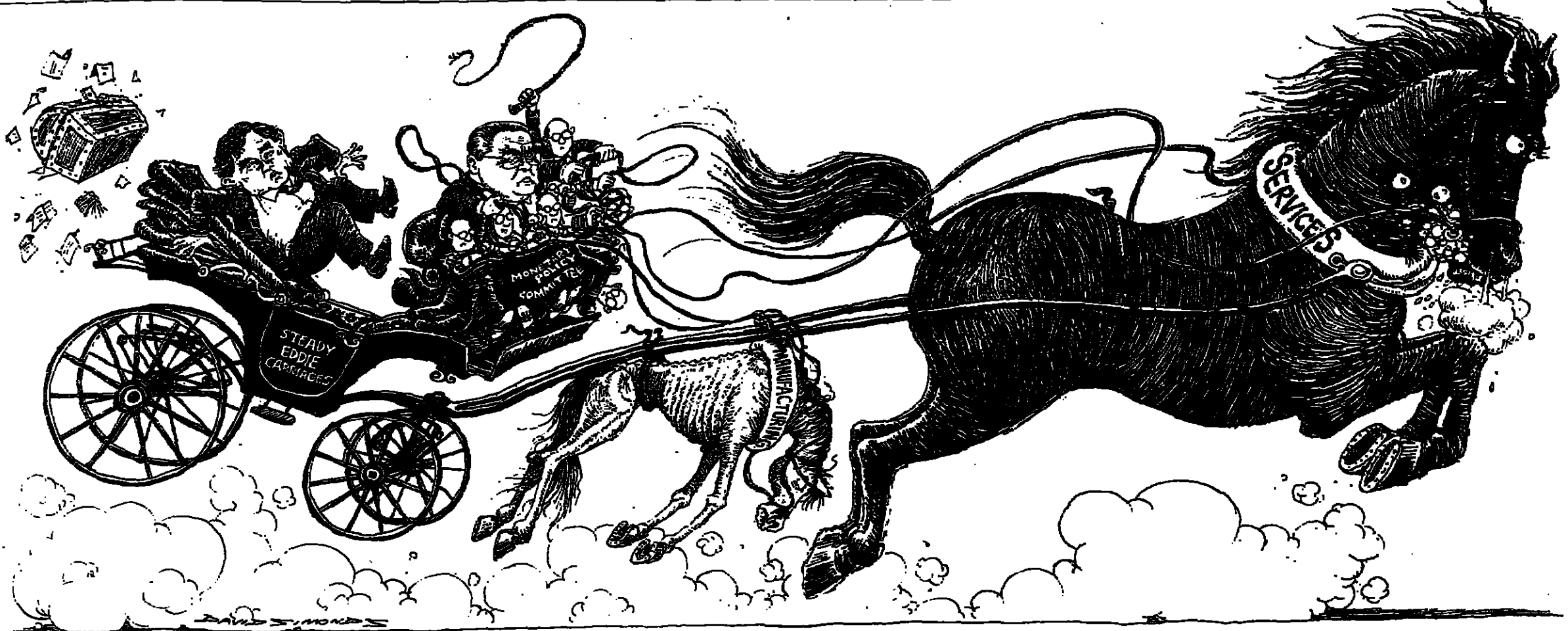
that the merger gives it the right to renegotiate terms.

Diageo, which has a 45 per cent stake in Cuervo, has taken action in the US federal court in San Antonio, Texas. It is thought that the court could take up to nine months to decide.

The row is similar to that last year in which Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy, the French luxury goods group which previously held a 15 per cent stake in Guinness, threatened to renegotiate its distribution deal on the grounds that there had been a change in the control of Guinness.

Responding to suggestions that it could face further disputes, a Diageo spokesman said the company owned most of its brands — which include Smirnoff vodka, Johnnie Walker whisky and Gordon's gin.

He said the only distribution agreement aside from the LVMH names where Diageo did not control the brand involved, or hold a stake in it, was that covering Southern Comfort and Jack Daniels.



# A plea for plodding bankers



Larry Elliott

**L**IKE Steve Davis, the snooker player, the Bank of England's monetary policy committee would like to be boring. It has no desire to hog the headlines, no urge to be the centre of attention every month when the time comes to make a decision on interest rates.

Fat chance. In his letter to Eddie George confirming operational independence for the Bank on May 6 last year, Gordon Brown told the Governor that Labour was committed to "ensure that decision-making on monetary policy is more effective, open, accountable and free from short-term political manipulation".

The key word here is "effective". Policy is certainly "open" under the new sys-

tem. Indeed, it is perhaps too open, encouraging as it does frenzied speculation about the voting intentions of each of the nine members of the committee and how they might be swayed by each and every piece of economic data that emerges between one meeting and the next.

In the current context, "more effective decision-making" means the committee should do a better job in avoiding a recession than Mr Brown would, had he retained the old system. The trick is to take the heat out of the economy without causing hefty falls in output, investment and employment.

Out in the big, wide world there seems to be little confidence that this is what the committee is doing. On the contrary, there are plenty of people in the City, industry and the trade unions who are convinced that the Bank is about to send the economy spiralling into an utterly pointless recession.

And make no mistake, it would be utterly pointless. To hear Mr Brown talk, you would think that he had inherited an economy in May last year only one or two steps away from 1923-style

German hyperinflation, as opposed to the best economic inheritance a Labour government has ever enjoyed.

Little more than a year on, manufacturing is in recession and is being hit by high interest rates, the strength of the pound and the Asian crisis. However, as anybody who has ventured out to the streets on a Friday or Saturday night recently can testify, there is not yet much evidence of recession spreading to the rest of the economy.

If we suffer a hard landing, it will be the result of monetary decisions taken since the election rather than of what the Chancellor's aides call "Ken Clarke's non-decisions". In the six months running up to polling day, the notion that Mr Clarke can be made the fall-guy if things go badly wrong over the next 12 months is risible; there is only one possible fall-guy on offer — the current incumbent of 11 Downing Street.

Mr Brown is not averse to the idea of a mini-slowdown over the next few months, provided that it is not something worse. Labour's strategists recall that Bill Clinton engineered a growth pause early in his first term, which

allowed him to take the brakes off during his re-election campaign in 1996.

But if things do turn nasty, there is not an awful lot the Chancellor can do. Obviously the Asian meltdown is out of the Government's hands, and Mr Brown shares Nigel Lawson's view that fiscal policy should be about making structural changes to the supply side of the economy rather than demand management, and monetary policy is left to the committee.

So is the Chancellor starting to repent the haste with which he willingly surrendered one of the main instruments of macro-economic management? The short answer is no, although it would be surprising if there were not times when Mr Brown, being bumped around in the back of the carriage — felt like elbowing Mr George aside and taking the reins himself. In particular, the Chancellor would have raised rates earlier and more aggressively to administer shock treatment to wage bargainers, a course of action which he believes would have raised rates to come down more rapidly thereafter.

The MPC sees things differently, as Mervyn King, one of

the Bank's deputy governors, explained in an elegant lecture last October. Quoting the International Monetary Fund's Stanley Fischer, he said the Bank had to get the judgment right on the speed at which to reduce inflation. Where there was uncertainty about the impact of an interest rate change on the economy "it may be sensible to move cautiously to the level of interest rates that would be necessary to ensure expected inflation over the appropriate horizon with the target level, rather than move rates abruptly and inject undesirable volatility into the economy".

**P**ROF King added later: "The MPC is under no illusion that it can abolish the business cycle. Over a number of years, monetary policy can ensure that inflation averages a level of around 2.5 per cent. But it cannot fine-tune output, and it would be a mistake to try to do so."

This, then, is the theory. As Prof King puts it: "A transparent monetary policy implies that announcements of changes in interest rates by

the MPC might come as rather little surprise. The news would not be in the outcome of the meetings of the MPC, but in the economic statistics published during the month. Markets would be able to anticipate the likely reaction of the MPC, and the decisions by the MPC would follow a predictable policy reaction function."

In practice, this is not happening. Far from considering the Bank's decisions predictable, the markets see them as inconsistent, even capricious. In the City, there is understandable confusion as to what the Bank is up to. What, for instance, was the point of last month's rate rise? Did the MPC believe that it had erred in not raising rates earlier and had fallen behind the game? If so, why did rates not go up again this week? If, on the other hand, the Bank thought that 0.25 percentage points was enough to hit the inflation target, then why not say so? The City, believing that rates had peaked, would have started selling sterling.

This brings us back to the central issue of effectiveness. It has been clear for the past 14 months that the real problem with the economy is that

it is seriously unbalanced and needs precisely the sort of treatment it received after Black Wednesday. Interest rates and the pound need to come down, with the extra spending power mopped up through much higher taxes on consumption. There have been some increases in consumer taxation since last May, but they have been dwarfed by the windfalls paid out by former mutual organisations. It would have been far better for the Chancellor to have kept control of both monetary and fiscal policy.

This is not just a question of accountability; it reflects design flaws in the system. Decisive action is more likely from a chancellor in a government with a majority of 180 than from a committee of nine people. Committees by their nature prefer non-action; they tend towards compromise. Nudging up rates in quarter-point moves has probably been the worst option of all, since the result has been to prolong and intensify the squeeze on manufacturing through an overvalued exchange rate while having virtually no impact on consumers.

The emphasis on open decision-making may accentuate

the bias towards inertia. Releasing voting records shortly after meetings increases the pressure on members of the committee to be able to justify how their decision is compatible with hitting the inflation target.

Finally, there is the question of the target itself. Why the Government chose this form of central bank independence has never been made clear: nor does there seem to be any rationale to the figure of 2.5 per cent. If we are to have central bank independence, it is arguable that we would be better off with a New Zealand-style system, where the bank's governor is solely responsible, or an American system, where the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee is required to pay attention to a variety of objectives, including stable prices, growth and unemployment, but has no specific targets.

It may be, of course, that it is taking time for the British system to bed down, and that before too long the Bank will enjoy the anonymity that comes from being boring.

But it had better get a move on. At the moment, it is simply too interesting. Too interesting by half.

## Poverty strikes when Cyclops is sovereign

### Debate

Kevin Watkins

**I**N THE land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king — and when it comes to addressing problems in the crisis-prone global financial system, the one-eyed man of Wall Street and the International Monetary Fund are firmly in control.

During the 1980s, the destructive power of capital markets has been seen in Mexico, East Asia and Russia. The scenario has become all too familiar. Unexplained euphoria takes hold and stocks rise into unsustainable markets, generating huge profits for foreign investors. Then panic takes hold, capital takes flight, the currency collapses and the IMF springs into action, falling out investors who have transferred their assets elsewhere, leaving behind economic collapse and social disintegration.

None of which would have surprised the architects of the Bretton Woods system. Having witnessed the 1930s Depression, they sought to create a structure to regulate private capital markets. They realised these were failures because of the tendency to panic and recognised that a general collapse could follow.

When Keynes designed the IMF he therefore ruled out capital liberalisation and currency convertibility was required only for current account operations — broadly, trade and profit repatriation.

Today countries borrowing from the fund will be required to liberalise their financial systems; the upshot will be an unprecedented transfer of sovereignty to global markets dominated by Wall Street's increasingly monopolistic conglomerates.

The conglomerates, led by Citigroup and Chase Manhattan, are enthusiastic, seeing it as a mechanism for access to outlets for bonds, equities and commercial loans.

According to IMF managing director Michel Camdessus, capital markets are no different to any others, and liberalisation will maximise efficiency and output. Evidence from each successive financial crisis in the real world suggests otherwise.

Take the case of Indonesia. This year, the economy will contract by 15 to 20 per cent, dragging another 40 million into poverty. Investment has collapsed due to high rates and import shortages.

Unemployment has tripled to over 20 per cent. Thousands of private companies, viable before the crisis, have been pushed into bankruptcy.

Meanwhile public spending on health and education has

fallen by a third, as the government transfers resources into debt repayments. Such facts explain why the World Bank's chief economist, Joseph Stiglitz, remains resolutely opposed to capital market liberalisation.

When a forced devaluation quadrupled Indonesia's external debt, the IMF loan secured repayments for foreign investors by nationalising foreign debt and transferring the costs of adjustment to the public budget, reversing over three decades of poverty reduction in the process.

Not content with creating a risk-free casino for reckless foreign speculators, the IMF is now seeking to expand their gambling outlets.

At present, Vietnam forbids foreign banks from holding more than 10 per cent of operating capital in dollars. In Chile, short-term equity flows are heavily taxed to prevent speculative activity. Such measures have helped to prevent a build-up of unsustainable foreign debt, yet they would be outlawed under the new IMF regime.

Radically different approaches are needed. Institutional investors such as mutual and pension-fund managers should be required to make provisions for losses commensurate with the risk of their investments.

This would help reduce the incentives for high-risk, speculative investment and simultaneously lower the potential for financial panic. So, too, would an international tax on currency transactions.

Better international surveillance of banking systems would also help at the margins, but the best way to ensure prudent lending is through international rules making imprudent lending genuinely risky.

In the case of East Asia, the authority of the IMF should have been used to force foreign investors to accept very large debt write-offs, and an immediate moratorium on repayments. It should not be used to subordinate the interests of the world's poor to those of Wall Street.

Kevin Watkins is a senior policy adviser for Oxfam

Charlotte Denny on monetarism

### Economics made easy

**W**HAT IS monetarism? It is a school of economics arguing that inflation is primarily caused by excessive growth in the money supply. The most famous exponent is the American economist, Milton Friedman, who wrote a history of the United States linking booms and recessions to fluctuations in the growth-rate of money.

**Why was this important?**

At the time, most economists were influenced by John Maynard Keynes, who said that if economies showed signs of going into recession, governments should boost demand by expanding the money supply.

**What did he advocate instead?**

Governments should manage money supply, not economies. If the government made sure that the stock of money expanded at a rate compatible with the long-run growth rate of the economy, there would be no big swings in output.

**What did Keynesians say?**

They said that monetarists confused causation with correlation. It is like arguing that because every December there are deliveries of turkeys to supermarkets, the increase in the turkey supply must be causing Christmas.

**Why did his ideas become popular?**

Because he correctly predicted that the watered-down version of Keynesianism would run into trouble. Policymakers had become convinced that there was trade-off between inflation and unemployment — the so-called Phillips curve — which sug-

gested that countries could lower jobless rates by accepting a higher level of inflation.

**Does monetarism work?**

The most comprehensive experience was in Britain, where for almost seven years after Margaret Thatcher's election, policy was run along monetarist lines. Targets for money-supply growth were set each year. The result was one of the deepest recessions Britain has ever known. Inflation came down, but only at the cost of a huge rise in unemployment, and the government exceeded its targets at almost every year.

## Oh, all right then on the labour front

### Worm's eye

Dan Atkinson

**C**YNICS once suggested an alternative motto for the Labour Party: "Oh, all right then."

Similarly, the phrase "we have to accept that..." seems a particular favourite as preface for any Government MP regarding free markets, the triumph of business values, or the status quo in general.

So here is a test: what do the authorities intend to do about the recent threats of Vauxhall and Rover to move component supply out of the country? That's right — do?

It seems that the lack of productivity of British workers is part of the "problem". Is that a fact? Productivity may be a headache but consumption certainly isn't. Both companies have made colossal sums out of the British market since the 1920s.

In the case of Rover, now of course under overseas ownership, these huge sums include not only the profits of car sales to the public but handouts from the taxpayer amounting to perhaps £2 billion, along with the huge indirect subsidy represented by all the

managerial and ministerial time soaked up in trying to rescue the company.

We are to hear an statement of the "we have to accept" school, that will be bad enough. What are we frightened of? These entities have no independent existence and are created by the legal system and its enforcement mechanism within this country. With no courts to enforce their contracts and no police to protect their plant Vauxhall and Rover would be in a sad state; productivity would be the least of their worries.

But even worse than doing nothing would be swift action from on high to whip the British workforce into shape to make it acceptable to these grand corporate actors.

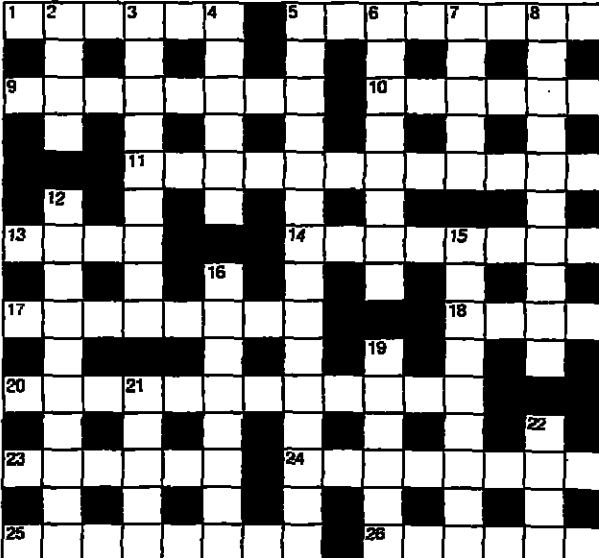
If there is one thing more objectionable than standing back and allowing international business to do as it will, it is the shifting of all blame for the result on to the victims — the "unproductive", inflexible workforce.

This blame-shifting is part of a wider process whereby all risk is loaded on to the workforce and off the financial interest. Only when somebody calls in Rover and Vauxhall for a lesson in the facts of life is any change likely. Until then we must put up with calls to close "the productivity gap."

In other words: oh, all right then.

## Guardian Crossword No 21,325

Set by Rufus

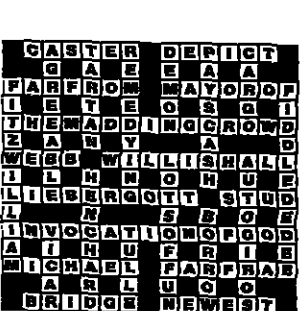


### Across

- 1 Begged having to compete in the final round (6)
- 5 A bit like West Ham, nothing special (8)
- 9 Recall soldiers and arm (6)
- 10 Cut lumber (6)
- 11 When moved, mother and father may talk thus (4,3,5)
- 13 The key to baby's sleeping accommodation (4)
- 14 Make oneself useful and satisfy the wife (8)
- 17 One running out of clothes (6)
- 18 Placed a number on benefit (4)
- 20 Some time in the past (6,6)
- 23 Time taken by a secretary (6)
- 24 Smuggled wines and rifles (8)
- 25 Good block of cars (6)
- 26 Good number joining expedition (6)

### Down

- 2 You want to be in it (4)
- 3 Unusually fine story with a moral that defies description (9)
- 4 He must have been given credit for something (6)
- 5 One helping to remove litter from the field (9,6)
- 6 Highly skilled apprentice put in complete control? (8)
- 7 Jam in a slice of cake (5)
- 8 Embellishments are due, like another name for Edinburgh (4,6)
- 12 Brothers terrify ant in play (10)
- 15 Sensational entertainment (9)
- 16 Sad about relative, he becomes a young gangster (8)
- 19 This drink can go a hundred years back (6)



**WINNERS OF PRIZE PUZZLE 21,325**  
This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are T Sarwood of Southport, Devon, P J Williams of Southport, Mrs S Coleman of Hexham, Mrs V Starnes of Bridlington, East Yorkshire, and R Forbes of Stockbridge, Edinburgh.

Please allow 28 days for delivery

**21** US aid distributed about Asian kingdom (5)  
**22** Take off the garment right away (4)

**Solution tomorrow**

**23** Snack? Then call our solutions line on 0801 335 228. Calls cost 50p per minute at all times. Service supplied by ATS

**NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT**  
Recycling paper made up 41.4% of the new newspapers in the first half of 1997

**ATF 1997**



In the acclaimed 12-page sports section



**Open season**  
Lee Westwood  
sets out  
his stall  
**21**



**Final flourish**  
Essex revel in  
their delayed  
cup victory  
**24**



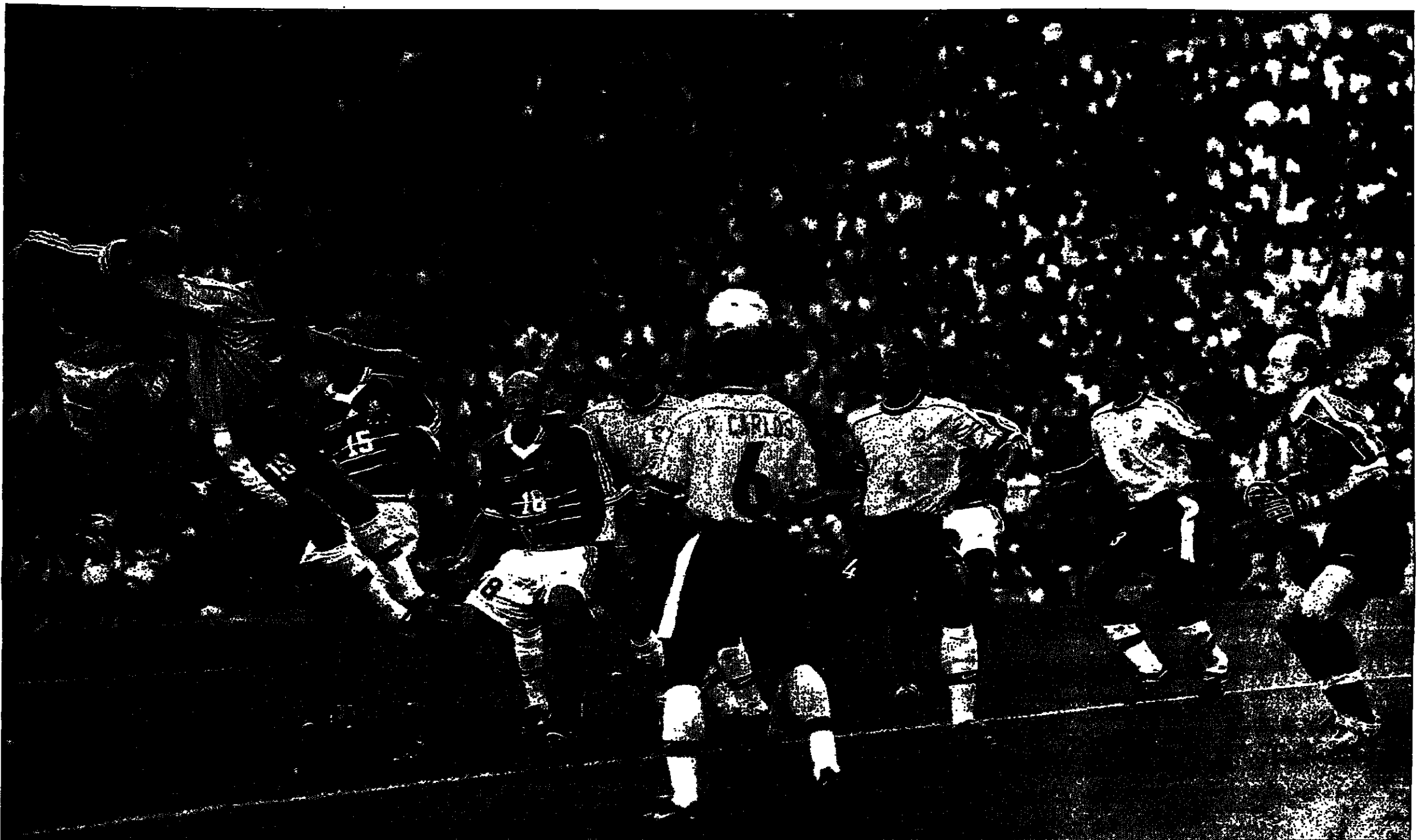
**Other pages**  
France 98 18-20  
Motor Racing 21-22  
Golf 21-23  
Cricket 24  
Tour de France, Rugby 25  
Racing 26

# The Guardian Sport

Monday July 13 1998 www.football.guardian.co.uk

France 98: the final reckoning

## France on top of the world



Allez France... Brazil's defence is left standing as Zinedine Zidane heads the opening goal for the hosts at Stade de France last night

PHOTOGRAPH: CLIVE BRUNSKILL

World Cup final: Brazil 0 France 3

### Zidane's double leads the rout as hosts put paid to below-par Brazil

David Lacey in St-Denis

**T**HE head of Zinedine Zidane brought France a remarkable and historic World Cup triumph here last night. Two nods from the Marseille-born Juventus midfielder gave the French a 2-0 half-time lead over a Brazilian side who chose this game of all games to fall collectively below form. Then in injury time Emmanuel Petit held off Cafu and hit a left-foot drive to put the game beyond reach.

Seeking their fifth World Cup by retaining the trophy twice, Brazil's pre-match preparations were stalled by the late hospital check on Ronaldo's left ankle and he was cleared to play by the team doctors only 45 minutes before the kick-off.

Originally the Brazilians had Edmundão down to play in Ronaldo's place and their players did not come out before the start for their customary warm-up. Once the final began France took the initiative and never lost it.

They did, however, lose Marcel Desailly, already booked for dissent, to a second yellow card midway through the second half after a foul on Cafu.

Recent finals had so often failed to live up to expectations that it was unwise to hope for too much. All the occasion could reasonably ask for was a half-decent game, which would at least be half as good again as the final of four years ago.

Last night's match had more going for it. To start



with neither side had been dragged across a sub-continent with minimal time to recover from their semi-final, Italy's fate in the United States before losing to the Brazilians on penalties after a sterile scoreless draw.

The fact that the hosts had reached the final for the first time since Argentina 20 years earlier gave the evening an added filip. Brazil were clear favourites and for France to beat them would be the biggest upset in a World Cup final since West German defeated Hungary, against all the odds, in 1966. But even without the suspended Laurent Blanc the French still possessed the sort of solid defensive base from which victory often springs.

It was a combustible start by the French that saw two chances fall the way of Stéphane Guivarch in the opening five minutes. He failed to capitalise on either.

First Youri Djorkaeff found him in space near goal with a searching ball from the right. Junior Balano's challenge was cumbersome and Guivarch's overhead shot landed on the roof of the net.

The second was less forgivable. Zinedine Zidane exchanged brisk passes with Djorkaeff and again Brazil were exposed as Guivarch was sent through the middle by Zidane. But his touch was poor and a stumble did not help.

Nevertheless France continued to control the early stages, with Didier Deschamps, Petit and Djorkaeff the masters of midfield and able to carry the play to the opposition at will.

Little was seen initially of Brazil's attack apart from the odd exploratory move down the flanks. With Dunga kept busy defensively little of consequence was coming through to Ronaldo and Bebeto.

All the same this was an anxious period for the French. Teams who gain the ascendancy over Brazil need to mark the moment with a goal. All France had done was remind everybody of their lack of a natural scorer.

Midway through the first half Fabien Barthez offered an increasingly grey game a spot of light relief by catching a centre from Ronaldo with one hand and then nearly carrying the ball over the line with the other. A minute later, more seriously, the French goalkeeper had to move quickly to keep out a header from Rivaldo following Leonardo's corner.

Another minute, another corner, and this time a goal — but for France, not Brazil. Petit's inswinging kick from the right evaded Lilian Thuram but behind him Zidane was already getting above Leonardo to meet the ball with a sharp downward header past Taffarel.

This was hardly the plot many had expected but the scoreline was no fluke. France deserved their lead for they had played with more aggression, better organisation and greater discipline.

Little at that point was going right for the holders. Ronaldo surged through the middle only to be felled, innocently enough, by Barthez's determination in leaving his line to beat him to the ball. Bebeto slunk around the outside of the French defence to meet a cross from Leonardo but could get no power into his header.

Not so Zidane; both he and France were heading for glory. On the stroke of half-

time Guivarch should have scored after Thuram's long ball from the right had been missed by Junior Balano. With only Taffarel to beat he saw his shot pushed wide by the Brazil goalkeeper.

From Djorkaeff's corner on the left, however, Zidane thrust his way through the defence, brushed Dunga aside and again nodded the ball down into the net. For a player who had waited until now to score his first goals in the tournament Zidane's sense of timing was inspired.

Brazil, for the most part, had been far from inspired. It took nothing away from the French performance, and especially their midfielders, to judge this easily the Brazilians' poorest first half of the tournament.

Now they needed a quick goal. To this end Leonardo, ineffective on the right, gave way to Denilson in the hope that the latter would give the attack more pace and penetration on the left.

In the central areas near the French goal, however, Desailly and Frank Leboeuf continued to rule. Ronaldo seldom moved far from Desailly's shadow and when he did shake off the defence to exploit a cleverly-worked free-kick by Rivaldo and Roberto Carlos to give himself a clear shot from close range Barthez not only stopped it but held it.

**SUBSTITUTIONS** Brazil: Denilson for Leonardo, 44; Edmundo for Romário, 75 min.  
France: Boghoslian for Karadeniz, 56; Dugarry for Guivarch, 88; Vieira for Djorkaeff, 76

**SENT OFF:** Desailly  
**BOOKED:** Brazil: Junior Balano, Philippe Deschamps, Desailly, Karadeniz, Romário & Sotgiu (Morocco).

### « La Philosophie de World Cup »

In which two French café intellectuals chew over this week's World Cup moments. All conversations lubricated by the best loved premium beer in France.



When we hail our defeated players as heroes, is it that our need for pain outweighs the need for victory?

Morning, Claude. A glorious victory, was it not? Indeed. And yet were we watching the real winners? Fake quof?

Many would say that it was precisely those who took the early plane home who contributed most to the entertainment.

Ah, the naïve Nigeriens, Craig Brown's Barry Army, the slippery customers from Morocco, the comical little Americans.

Yes, they played their part. But only one nation actually turned defeat into victory. Don't tell me...

It was England. Compare their homecoming to that of other defeated teams. The Colombians were obliged to step off the plane in bullet-proof vests. The English lads

were hailed as heroes.

Odd, that.

On the contrary. Once again, the English were able to lose themselves in the exquisite pleasure of shared grief. How appropriate that the country which Sartre so derided should have perfectly illustrated his theory of sado-masochism.

You mean, Greek Street, Madame Whiplash, third floor...?

Well, yes. Of course we've always known that there's nothing that the English like more than being pegged out on a croquet lawn by a dirty foreign girl in a riot skirt and bondage boots but...

What, all of them? No, what I'm saying is... Big Ron? Kevin Keegan? Sir Butech Wilkins? Sal Campbell? All pegged out on a croq...?

No, patron.

Jimmy Hill in his St George bow-tie? The yobs in their bowler hats? Back to Bolton to be...?

No, listen. The Two Fat Ladies? The Girls with Attitude? Denise van Outen, Sara Cox, Jo "Be My" Guest? Straight out of the TFI Friday studio, down to the nearest croquet lawn, slip out of their...?

No, patron! Not individuals. I'm talking about the English psyche — a national state of mind which luxuriates in the pain of submission, the climactic ecstasy of humiliation.

Tina Turner? Bill Oddie? Brian Blessed?

That's it. I've had enough. Adieu, patron.

Torance Basher & William Donatison

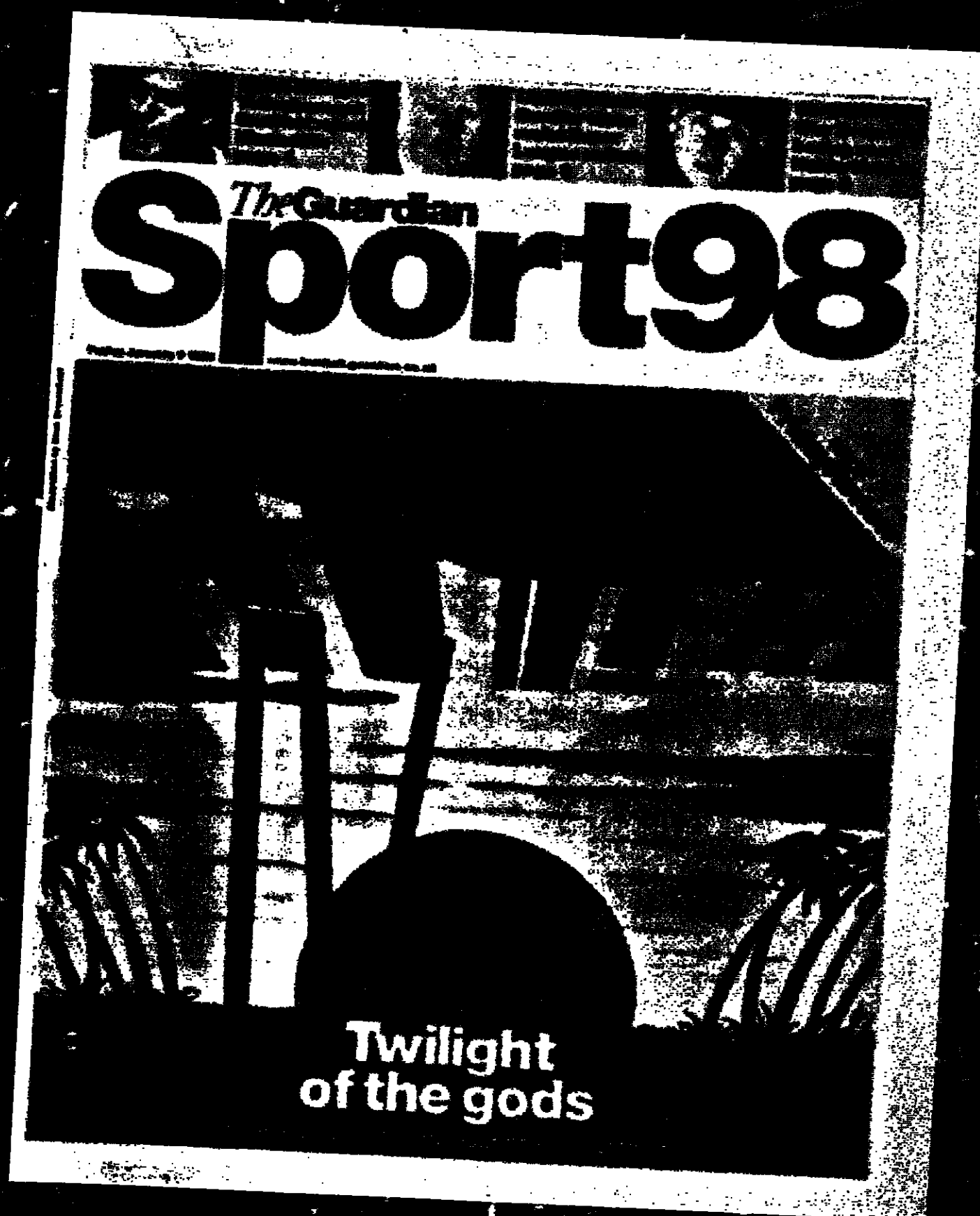


« the exquisite pleasure of shared grief »





# If it's in the game, it's in...



Every day the Guardian carries comprehensive sports coverage, but look out for the dedicated sport supplement on Friday – Sport98 – packed with everything you need to know. On Monday there is a full round-up of the weekend's sport written by the Guardian's award-winning journalists. If you're looking for the best sports coverage, join the team.

## Sport.

Every day in *The Guardian*

## France 98: the final reckoning

The arrival of two World Cup winners at Tottenham 20 years ago changed the face of English football. Joe Bernstein on the Argentinians who sparked a revolution

# The coup that started the foreign invasion

ANY season which follows a World Cup needs a rattling good yarn to ward off a feeling of anticlimax. It happened in 1978 when Alan Sugar cornered Jürgen Klinsmann on a yacht and persuaded him to sign for Tottenham (history does not relate whether the German dived off in celebration). Four years earlier post-1968 fatigue was swept away on the tide of Gazza-mania which gripped the nation until August and beyond.

But for sheer shock value nothing could top the sensational news 20 years ago this week when Spurs, fresh out of the Second Division, signed Ossie Ardiles and Ricky Villa.

'Ossie was fed up with Jankovic diving. As he jogged past the referee he said 'bloody foreigner'

newly crowned World Cup winners with Argentina.

In 1978 foreign stars were a rarity in England, particularly those good enough to win the World Cup with nimble footwork, quick passing and excellent technique. The timing of their arrival at White Hart Lane was stunning, coming only two weeks after Argentina had beaten Holland 3-1 in the final in Buenos Aires to trigger the Mother of all ticker-tape parties.

Their physical differences — broad, bearded Villa every inch the Gaucho; Ardiles with less flesh than a flat racing jockey — only increased the English public's anticipation. Surprisingly the lesser-known Villa was the more expensive purchase, costing £375,000 from Racing Club in Buenos Aires, £50,000 more than Spurs paid Huracan for Ardiles.

As a pair they were box-office dynamite. Some 10,000 turned out to watch their first training session, 41,000 their debut at Nottingham Forest (Villa scored in a 1-1 draw). Thousands were added to the gate wherever Spurs played.



Movers and shakers... the World Cup winners Ossie Ardiles, left, and Ricky Villa get to grips with Spurs fans at White Hart Lane in July 1978 after their unexpected arrival from Argentina.

FRANK MARTIN

"We were surprised by the interest," Ardiles recalled from his home in Japan, where he manages the J-League team Shimizu S-Pulse. "Ricky and I wanted to play in Europe and everyone expected us to go where the Argentinians normally go — France, Spain or Italy. But the first offer on the table was from Spurs. We had to say yes or no, and we said yes. Ricky had one or two doubts but I wasn't worried; I was excited."

The blunt Yorkshire home truths of Tottenham's manager Keith Burkinshaw went

down a row in Buenos Aires and the deals were completed in 72 hours. Spurs cleverly arranged for the Villa and Ardiles to live together in a house large enough to accommodate both sets of wives, children, parents, aunts and uncles. As a further aid to acclimatisation, the club made sure the players were on the guest list of every social function organised by the Argentine Embassy.

On the pitch, however, the euphoria quickly vanished. Their home debut ended in a 4-1 defeat by Aston Villa and

a 7-0 pounding at Liverpool followed in September. The "they-won't-last-three-months brigade" led by Derby County's manager Tommy Docherty — were rubbing their hands with glee. Ardiles might have thrived on providing service to Kempes and Luque but he was finding life far tougher linking with John Lacey and John Fretwell. He and Villa, playing in an ordinary side, struggling with the language and for ever the target of hatchet men, needed time to find their feet.

"I went berserk during a League Cup tie at Swansea when Tommy Smith kicked Ossie all over the place," said Burkinshaw. "Tommy said after the game that this was what English football was all about but I didn't think putting your boot half-way up an opponent's leg was football. I was worried. I didn't want a terrific player like Ossie booted out of the game but, to be fair, my two lads were superb professionals and got through it."

Ossie was only 9½ stone wet through but he was perpetual motion on the pitch and, if he gave the ball away once in 50 minutes, I would be surprised. The turning point was the 7-0 defeat at Liverpool. The Argentinian lads couldn't believe how English football was played. They realised that day they couldn't swan about in midfield but really had to compete, and we went out and won the next two league games."

Ardiles's class and popularity — "I was surprised to see the amount team-mates used to drink after games but I switched from Coca-Cola to beer and quickly became one of the boys" — opened the way for dozens of overseas players. Managers in England rushed to look abroad for talent, although for every success like the Ipswich pair Arnold Muhren and Frank Thilissen there was a failure such as Didier Six (Aston Villa), Alberto Tarantini (Birmingham) or Vladimir Petrovic (Aston Villa).

Ardiles thinks the class of 1978-82 had it harder than the likes of Bergkamp, Ginola and Flo. "If somebody touches them, it's a foul," he said. "The referees protect the forward players. When I played, the tactics were really flying around and it went unnoticed by the referee."

Despite Eric Cantona's wages, there is still no better advert for foreign players than Arsenal. There were so many highlights, not least the 1981 FA Cup final, which was special for both South Ameri-

cans. Villa scored a magnificent winner in the replay against Manchester City and Ossie sang on Top of the Pops with Chas and Dave. Ardiles also had a pivotal role in helping his Spurs team-mate

Glenn Hoddle develop into one of England's greatest midfield players. Even the Falklands War could not drive a lasting wedge between Ardiles and his adopted home, although

he went on loan to Paris St-Germain during the conflict and missed Tottenham's 1982 FA Cup final win. He returned to play for Spurs, Blackburn and Queens Park Rangers until 1988, when he began a managerial career which took him to Swindon, Newcastle, West Bromwich and Spurs before Alan Sugar sacked him in 1994.

Villa was not the perfect Anglophile like his compatriot and, when he left White Hart Lane in 1983, it was for Fort Lauderdale Strikers. From there he went to Colombia and then back to Argentina, where he lives in the ranch he owns outside Buenos Aires. "It was great living in England but I didn't like the cold," he said. "I hate having to stay in so the outside life in Argentina suits me better. I try to keep in touch with the football and England will always mean something special to me. After all, my two daughters were born there."

Burkinshaw, now director of football at Aberdeen, is "in deep despair about the number of foreign players in British football". Of course it was he who started the trend, though he regrets it. "I have watched Ossie on television during the World Cup and I thought it was a hoax when Bill Nicholson came into my office and told me they were available," he said. "It turned out to be the easiest transfer I have ever had to do. They were exceptional players and Ossie was such a nice fella, as well as a talented player."

His sense of humour helped him through. I remember a match at Middlesbrough when Bozo Jankovic kept diving around trying to win a free-kick. Ossie was fed up with it and as he jogged past the referee he muttered 'bloody foreigner'."

Everything Ardiles did in those days added to the debate about whether "fancy-dan foreigners are cut out for our game". Few could have guessed there would come a day when a Dutch World Cup star would sign for Chelsea on £75,000 a week — and no one would bat an eyelid.

## Clogger

A (final) furtive glance at France 98

**Injury time** Like a tableau of medical progress, the World Cup started with a rash of gruesome, first world war-style bandages (Golakov v Paraguay, Sellini v England) and ended with exquisite hairnet affairs (Cannavaro v France, right; Jarni v France) which miraculously protected the wearers from everything but ridicule.

**Out on a limb** Among the curious physical attributes on display in France were Marco Overmars's terrifyingly pockmarked knees, the Iran goalkeeper Akbarzadeh's mysterious webbed fingers, Junior Balso's monstrous thighs, and the amazing variety of prominent noses which seemed to be compulsory among the Dutch.

**Feared the weather** All but one half-time interview with England players was uneventfully dull, the sole exception being Tony Adams's unprompted insistence that he wasn't sleeping with Paul Merson. "Obviously we don't shave heads, I want to get that perfectly straight!" Sounds like too much therapy.

**Signal failure** Most useless coach's signal came from Bert Vogts, right, after Jürgen Klinsmann went off injured in the closing stages against Yugoslavia. With impeccable logic Vogts frantically held up 10 fingers to indicate the number of players Germany had left on the pitch.

**Tales of the expected** First player sent off is a Bulgarian; South Korea are next and attractive but lose all their games; the British government's claim that people would be refused entry with black-and-white tickets proves false; England have three goals in the BBC's top 10.

**Card sharks** Most unnecessary yellow surely went to Ivica Jazdic Zartichich, who "left the field too slowly" when substituted against the US. We expect to see him without... Steven Hill; Austria; St. Rendee of Colombia; Suzana Warner; and Paul Gascoigne (oh, we did forget to mention that Klinsmann was not in the team).

**Dutch players only** Having one on-field punch-up, Dennis Walker setting up a goal against Tunisia by running 20 yards and winning a free-kick, and being rescued by their goalkeeper, And Hossain... In which some did not play.

**Answers on a postcard**

**You've waited for a PC this good.**

**We can wait for the money.**

**Windows 98 now available**

**G6-400**

- Intel Pentium® II Processor, 400MHz
- 64MB 100MHz SDRAM, expandable to 768MB
- Intel® 440BX ACPset
- 512KB L2 Cache
- 8.4GB 9.5ms Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 3.5" 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- Toshiba® DVD-ROM II Drive
- 5TB® MPACT 4MB ACP Graphics Accelerator, with Hardware MPEG2
- Sound Blaster® Audio PCI™ 64V
- Boston Acoustics® 5W Speakers with ISW Subwoofer

**£1499 (£1795.40 inc. VAT & Delivery)**

Gateway • Clonsilla Industrial Estate • Dublin 17 • Ireland  
Gateway Showroom • 10 Bedford Street • Covent Garden • London WC2E 9HE

With a multimedia PC as good as ours, we feel you shouldn't have to wait to own one. So when you tell us what you want from a PC, we'll build it for you.

Not only that, if you buy it in July, you don't have to pay anything until October! So why wait any longer? Give us a call now for more details.

**0800 82 2000**

Let's talk about your **Gateway**

www.gateway.com/uk

©1998 Gateway 2000 Europe. All rights reserved. Gateway and the Gateway stylized logo are trademarks of Gateway 2000, Inc. Gateway 2000 is a registered trademark of Gateway 2000, Inc. The Intel Inside Logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of the Intel Corporation. All other brands and product names are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. All sales subject to Gateway 2000 Europe's standard terms and conditions (available on request) and limited warranty. All prices and configurations are subject to change without notice or obligation. All prices are quoted in Sterling. Many Gateway products are custom-engineered to Gateway specifications, which may vary from the retail versions of the software and hardware in functionality, performance or compatibility. Factory standard practice is to measure response using the CRT size. Actual viewing area can be approx. 12" less. \*Maximum throughput. Performance will vary depending on your local conditions.

## Fifa to collar shirt-pullers

FIFA must address the problem of shirt-tugging, the World Cup organising committee chairman Lennart Johansson said yesterday.

Johansson, also president of the European governing body Uefa, said he had been struck by the number of instances of players pulling each other's shirts at the finals in France and said the problem had to be solved.

"There has been offensive and fair football," he said, "but we have to do something about the grabbing of shirts."

The former Dutch coach Rinus Michels is recovering well from a heart attack, according to a statement at the weekend. Michels, 70, credited with masterminding "total football" in the 1970s, had been taken to a hospital in Amsterdam after the heart attack on July 5. He had a heart bypass operation some 15 years ago.

**SHOCKSTOPPER**

Every time your heel slams down on a hard surface, shock waves damage your ankles, tendons, knees and back.

Shockstopper insoles absorb up to 95% of the impact because they're made from Sorbothane, the world's most effective shock absorber.

Available from all good sports shops.

Put your foot down. Insist on Sorbothane Shockstopper.

**sorbothane**

1999 A.M.C.

8.7



## British Grand Prix

## Tracking the bland leaders on the road to Dullsville

**James Mitchell** says F1 is in trouble when hair colour hits the headlines

FOR Formula One's image-makers, rain presents an awkward problem. Page Three models and grid girls in orange catsuits do not look glamorous when they are trying to force a smile in driving wind and pouring rain. But it does highlight something of the artifice of the stage-managed allure that has become a trademark of the sport.

The reality of F1 is that the perceived glamour is in short supply and the reality is hard work. The Formula One teams spend hours honing their high-tech pieces of machinery, working out tactics and debating difficulties, like the type of tyres to use. And a race like yesterday's, with changing weather conditions, makes the task all but impossible, turning what is an inexact science into little more than complicated guesswork.



Deep purple... Jacques Villeneuve shows off his hair for Silverstone

But hard work does not make headlines, and technical subtleties and rows over the rules are not what persuades spectators to pay a minimum of £40 to attend Saturday's qualifying session, or upwards of £80 for yesterday's race.

Those people pack Silverstone out year after year, no matter who the star attraction is. But whether they get value for money, even after a race of some tension, is a moot point.

Silverstone, being a large, flat former aerodrome, does not have the quality of viewing positions that other tracks can boast, but it always makes more of an effort than most on the 16-race grand prix calendar, with an extensive programme of support races and air displays from the Red Arrows. But F1 has changed a great deal in the past few years. In the temporary shopping arcade that springs up behind the grandstands every year for the British Grand Prix, the concessions stands are now a model of corporate conformity, with only the official merchandise of the sport and teams on sale.

In the paddock, too, the company line is sacrosanct. Behind the facade of sponsor-speak and blandness, all the drivers are people in their own right. Yet it is a rare occurrence to hear any of them expressing their personal views publicly on genuine issues. They are too scared about what will happen to them — nearly everyone fears censure from either their team or the sport's governing body.

David Coulthard, who mooned at TV cameras for a joke over the weekend after being caught having a pee behind some bushes, is a good example. In private, Britain's leading hope for victory in yesterday's race is a charming, amusing man, one of the few drivers who would be as at home on a night out down the pub as he is donning fireproof overalls and helmet and racing life and limb at close to 200mph.

In public, Coulthard is the sponsor's dream, clean-cut and adept at saying the right thing, but he shows no apparent human weaknesses to the camera and his public appeal is not as great as that of Damon Hill, a man with no realistic chance of victory now, but who has had the chance to develop a public persona through the trials and tribulations of being on the losing side in two battles with Michael Schumacher.

Few have the desire or courage to break out of this straitjacket. Eddie Irvine gives the impression of being the sport's main free spirit, and says whatever he likes about his rivals on the track. But even he watches what he says on the more controversial issues. And while Jacques Villeneuve, who refuses to fall in line with the sport's unofficial smart-casual dress code, expresses his individuality by dying his hair purple after being motor racing's only peroxide blonde for a



Mystery man... David Coulthard shows no apparent human weaknesses to the camera

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID JONES

year, the very fact that his appearance causes such a stir within the sport is symptomatic of the fact that there is often little else to get excited about.

But if all this offends some, the people who run the sport care little. The TV audience continues to rise, despite the fact that the spectacle on the track is often poor, and the

spectators keep pouring through the gates. As the money rolls in, from TV companies who cannot get enough and spectators who love the sport because they appreciate the skills of the drivers or the complexities of the battle of brains and technology on the track, Bernie Ecclestone sits in his big, grey bus and smiles broadly.

## Golf

## Westwood thrives in hothouse

**Patrick Glenn** on an eight-day target of £1 m for Loch Lomond winner

WHATEVER else this week's Open championship at Royal Birkdale may hold for Lee Westwood, he is at least certain to encounter the sort of ferociously competitive atmosphere in which he thrives.

The 25-year-old Workop prodigy's four-stroke victory in the Standard Life Loch Lomond tournament said as much about his willpower as it did about the talent that has brought four titles this year and taken him to the top of the European money list.

With the most formidable golfers in the world assembled in Merseyside this week, Westwood could not have chosen a more demanding test. It would make most players shiver with apprehension, but Westwood is no ordinary competitor.

Approaching the 14th tee during the final round, he was level with his playing partner, the Swede Dennis Edlund, at seven under par. The 14th at Loch Lomond, a par four, has a split fairway, with the safe option — a straightforward drive down the left — virtually trouble-free and leaving a short iron to the elevated green.

The route down the right gives the bold player a chance of reaching the green, but there is a carry of 275 yards over terrain to the front of the green that yaks could not negotiate. On Saturday the conditions — cold, damp air and a telling breeze — were not conducive to gambling.

But Westwood produced the driver, flew the ball 280 yards on to the green, and watched it roll back down the slope to the front edge. It was a moment that immediately put Edlund under intolerable pressure.

Westwood, as it transpired, had to settle for par because of a tricky putt up the green, which he left short, taking two more to hole out. Edlund made bogey and the spectators crowding around the 14th tee seemed to sense that the Englishman had administered the coup de grace with four holes still to play.

Westwood's action at that 14th hole seemed to leave Edlund quaking. He put his ball in the woods at the next, then ran up a triple-bogey seven as Westwood made birdie; the contest was over. The winner's last round of 70 gave him an eight-under total.

of 275, four ahead of a group comprising Edlund, Ian Woosnam, Eduardo Romero, Robert Allenby and another young Englishman of huge promise, the 23-year-old David Howell of Swindon.

"I like the pressure," said Westwood, rather stating the obvious. "I like being in the heat of competition. A lot of players don't, but that's why I play the game, to get the adrenalin going."

"The forecast doesn't seem too good for Birkdale, and that suits me. I'm all for bad conditions, and the harder the course the better it suits me. I play better when I'm aggressive. I feel uncomfortable when I'm protecting."

Westwood's victory took his earnings on the Tour this year to more than £539,000, now ahead of the previous leader Colin Montgomerie by £108,000. He has also won in Asia and on the US PGA Tour, in New Orleans the week before the Masters at Augusta.

A win at Birkdale would make him richer by more than £1 million, thanks to the £1 million (£650,000) bonus offered by Standard Life to anyone who wins their tournament and goes on to complete the double in the Open.

With £141,680 in the kitty from Saturday and a £300,000 purse at Birkdale, Open victory would earn Westwood £1,081,680 in the space of eight days.

"That would be very nice," he said, "but I don't think I'll worry too much about the bonus. Winning the Claret Jug means more to me than money." There are not many 25-year-olds to whom £1 million is irrelevant.



Putt it there... Westwood accepts plaudits - CHRIS BACON

## Pollock wants to overtake with new life in the fast lane

**Alan Henry** on a man with a low profile who plans to make a high-speed impact

RAIG POLLOCK has a shrewd eye for the headlines. The man who bought the Tyrrell team in November as a launching pad for the new British American Racing team, with its £250 million, five-year tobacco sponsorship budget, ensured that last week's unveiling of his new factory at Brackley was accompanied by plenty of media hype.

In characteristically confident fashion, Pollock not only hinted that he would like Jacques Villeneuve to drive for him, but also held out the possibility of a new Formula One super team, with Damon Hill alongside the Canadian world champion to revive the 1996 Williams line-up.

"Damon has a huge talent and I think he is totally underestimated in F1," said Pollock. "He is a world champion who has been a little bit forgotten and that shouldn't be, because he is a great champion."

Outside the confined world of the Formula One pit-lane, Pollock's name

may mean little; even insiders know precious little about him. "Villeneuve's manager," they shrug. Or "the guy who put together the British American Racing deal."

The quiet-spoken 42-year-old may be low on profile, but in the past two years he has become high on involvement and is poised to emerge as a key operator.

Pollock was still a teacher and found himself with a new pupil, an 11-year-old called Jacques Villeneuve, who had been enrolled barely six months after his father Gilles crashed fatally in his Ferrari in Belgium.

"It was a pure teacher/student relationship," grins Pollock, "where Jacques was cast in the role of the little brat and I was the controller. But he was clearly a special kid."

Pollock left teaching to try his luck in what he refers to as "the big bad world of industry and commerce." Then came the vital break. By 1987 he found himself working for a Japanese manage-

ment company which, in turn, had an associate firm which owned the television rights to racing events held at Suzuka.

"We were selling TV rights in Japan for the motorcycle racing, world series rallies, sports cars and Formula One," he recalls, adding that this was the first time he became involved with Bernie Ecclestone's business interests.

Fast-forward eight years. Pollock was breakfasting with Villeneuve and Adrian Reynard after the driver's 1995 Indy 500 victory. He began probing Reynard on whether he would be interested in doing F1. "The only thing which is keeping us out," replied the car constructor, "is lack of long-term funding. And a driver, tyres and engine deal."

Pollock kept his mouth shut while privately thinking, "I can do that." So he spent the next three years convincing British American Tobacco that his way would be better for them than any other F1 team could offer.

"And everybody else was there," said Pollock, "from Ron Dennis and Frank Williams down. It's a nice feather in my cap."

## Full results from Silverstone

	<b>1</b> Michael Schumacher (Germany) Ferrari	Time: 1:47.124 Average speed: 162.2 mph
	<b>2</b> Jacques Villeneuve (Canada) Williams	22.485 sec behind
	<b>3</b> Eddie Irvine (Ireland) Renault	29.129
	<b>4</b> Alexander Wurz (Austria) Minardi	1 Lap
	<b>5</b> Giancarlo Fisichella (Italy) Benetton	1 Lap
	<b>6</b> Ralf Schumacher (Germany) Jordan	1 Lap

**Other finishers**  
7 Jacques Villeneuve (Can) Williams 1 lap  
8 Eddie Irvine (Ire) Renault 2 laps  
9 Tony Stewart (U.S.) Tyrrell 4 laps

**Did not finish/not classified**  
10 Jean Alon (Fr) Sauber 52 laps (engine)  
11 Pedro Diniz (Br) Arden 45  
12 Olivier Panis (Fr) Prost 40  
13 Michael Schumacher (Ger) Ferrari 38  
14 Jos Verstappen (Nl) Stewart 35  
15 David Coulthard (Sc) McLaren 37  
16 Jarno Trulli (It) Prost 37  
17 Nicky Attwood (GB) Tyrrell 25  
18 Mark Blundell (GB) Arden 25  
19 Johnny Herbert (GB) Stewart 27  
20 Mika Salo (Fin) Arden 27  
21 Marko Meranen (Fin) Tyrrell 15  
22 Benetton 100 (GB) Tyrrell 15

**Fastest lap**  
Schumacher  
1:35.704  
(120.145 mph)

**Drivers' championship**  
1. Schumacher 55  
2. Villeneuve 44  
3. Irvine 33  
4. Wurz 22  
5. Fisichella 17  
6. Schumacher 11  
7. Stewart 11  
8. Salo 10  
9. Trulli 9  
10. Coulthard 8  
11. Panis 7  
12. Herbert 6  
13. Diniz 5  
14. Alon 4  
15. Blundell 3  
16. Salo 2  
17. Meranen 2  
18. Coulthard 1  
19. Irvine 1  
20. Wurz 1  
21. Schumacher 1  
22. Villeneuve 1

**Constructors' championship**  
1. McLaren 55  
2. Ferrari 44  
3. Williams 33  
4. Renault 22  
5. Minardi 17  
6. Benetton 11  
7. Stewart 11  
8. Tyrrell 11  
9. Arden 10  
10. Prost 9  
11. Sauber 8  
12. Jordan 7  
13. Williams 6  
14. Tyrrell 5  
15. Arden 4  
16. Benetton 3  
17. Prost 2  
18. Sauber 2  
19. Tyrrell 1  
20. Williams 1  
21. Stewart 1  
22. Villeneuve 1

## £199 A MONTH NOW GOES EVEN FURTHER.

<b>VOLVO ADVANTAGE</b>	<b>ON THE ROAD PRICE.....</b>
<b>S40 1.8i (125 BHP) SE</b>	<b>£17,305.00</b>
<b>(ON THE ROAD)</b>	<b>CASH DEPOSIT.....</b>
<b>APR</b>	<b>£1,685.00</b>
<b>8.7%</b>	<b>BALANCE.....</b>
	<b>£158.46</b>
	<b>36 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF**</b>
	<b>OPTIONAL FINAL PURCHASE</b>
	<b>PAYMENT/GEV**</b>
	<b>£6,730.57</b>
	<b>CHANGE FOR CREDIT.....</b>
	<b>£2,268.13</b>
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE.....</b>
	<b>£18,678.19</b>

\* A credit facility of £250 is added to the cash deposit. \*\* The Optional Final Purchase Payment is a loan secured by the GEV (Consumer Finance) Ltd. £25 Purchase Fee payable with the first rental.

The Volvo S40 1.8i (125 bhp) SE.

It uses up to 15% less petrol than other comparable engines.

And at £199 per month you'll be using cash sparingly too.

The Volvo S40 1.8i (125 bhp) SE from £17,305 on the road.

Call 0800 11 40 40 for further details.

VOLVO. A CAR YOU CAN BELIEVE IN.





# The jinx of the Royal links . . .

Ian Baker-Finch, who won the Open when it was last at Birkdale in 1991, has lost the nerve to play in public. Three other top finishers have tailed into anonymity. David Davies reports

**T**WO contrasting visions remain for many people following the Open at Royal Birkdale in 1991. One is of standing there happily at the presentation, his life's ambition accomplished and his tiny daughter Hayley equally happily building sand-castles in a nearby bunker. The other is of the same Baker-Finch, fast forwarded to the Open Championship of 1997 at Royal Troon, gaunt and hollow-eyed and casting about him for an escape route — not just from public and press but from that which had made his life unbearable: golf. Within a year he had given up the competitive game, so he said at the time, for good.

The rise and sudden, sickening fall of Baker-Finch has been often told, for he is the most recent and most public manifestation of every good golfer's nightmare. He completely lost the ability to play the game in public. The man who, at Birkdale, played the last two rounds in 10 under par, including a 29 for the first nine holes of the final round, had six years later become unable to play the game to a professional standard or, indeed, to that of a decent club golfer.

Before he got to Troon last year he had been on a private tour, with some friends, of links courses in Ireland, and regularly not only got round courses like Royal County Down and Royal Portrush in under par figures but took the money as well.

At Troon, though, where money was the last thing on his mind, and in what was to be his final appearance in public, he took



Way back when . . .



**Frank Keating describes the scene at Lord's 100 years ago as WG Grace celebrated his fiftieth birthday with a full house**

Bonecrusher Grace . . . WG possessed a handshake to be feared  
PHOTOGRAPH: MALTIN GETTY

## The 127th Open's key challenges

### Hole 6

480 yards Par 4

Simply, the toughest hole on the Royal Birkdale course. Anyone who spent the entire four days of the 1991 championship on this hole saw only 18 birds and a higher stroke average (4.55) than the par five 57th (4.22). There is a dog-leg right around a bunker which is so penal that Steve Ballmer once played a one-tee off the tee, then a three-wood back to the hole, then a three-iron, and the hole "nothing out of it".



### Hole 12

163 yards Par 3

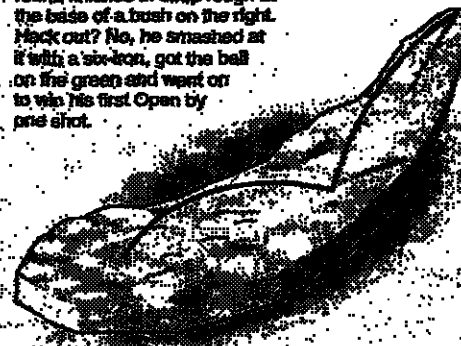
Not as well-known as Troon's Postage Stamp 8th but perhaps the best par three on the Open rota. Set in the most rugged part of the course, it was built for the 1985 championship and 8,000 tons of sand were moved. A dune cuts in on the right to form a kidney-shaped green, and two deep bunkers guard the front. In the 1983 Open the Australian Rodger Davis went 1-2-3-4 here.



### Hole 16

445 yards Par 4

Only two players in Open history have shot consecutive pars: Bobby Jones and Jock MacKenzie. It came in the 1961 championship, when the hole was the 15th. Palmer's drive in the first round finished in deep rough at the base of a bush on the right. Heck out? No, he smashed at it with a six-iron, got the ball on a fair green and went on to win his first Open by one shot.



### Hole 17

547 yards Par 5

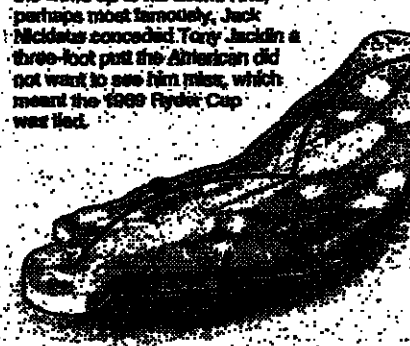
Despite a new tee creating more of a dog-leg, this hole still offers huge possibilities to mull over a second. Puss too hard, though, and it can run a card. Bill Rogers had an atrocious tee in 1983, two years after his victory. Lee Trevino, three clear in 1971, took seven. He drive failed to thread the gap between the giant sandhills and his second shot moving only a few yards. He still won. Others doing the same will probably not.



### Hole 18

472 yards Par 4

Not the finishing hole for anyone needing a par to win. It is long, tough and full of history. Tom Watson struck perhaps the best of his life here, away straight, in 1983 to clinch his 5th title. Save Ballmer's bump-and-run between the bunkers in 1976 woke the world up to his talent. And, perhaps most famously, Jack Nicklaus conceded Tony Jacklin a three-foot putt the Australian did not want to see him miss, which meant the 1969 Ryder Cup went tied.



Hole	Yards	Par
1	440	4
2	440	4
3	427	4
4	440	4
5	344	3
6	480	4
7	177	3
8	163	3
9	411	4
10	440	4
11	440	4
12	163	3
13	440	4
14	440	4
15	440	4
16	445	4
17	547	5
18	472	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,418 yards</b>	<b>Par 70</b>

apart — and additionally unconvinced that he was anything special — could have been part of what eventually destroyed him.

Baker-Finch was defeated by the myriad evil mind games the sport inflicts on a few. But one of the oddities of Birkdale '91 was the damage that championship inflicted on more than a few residents of Richard Boxall, who broke a leg while driving at the 9th. A look at the top 20 finishers reveals an astonishingly high rate of attrition, including another Australian Mike Harwood, who was second, Jodie Mudd, who came 5th, and the latest victim of this jinx of the links Chip Beck, who at Birkdale finished 17th. In the last two seasons he has missed 39 cuts in succession and knows not where the next semi-decent round is coming from. All of them will have their memories of Birkdale '91. They may not be quite so sanguine about what happened next.

Harwood was that contradiction in terms, a quiet, unobtrusive Australian, who was a mighty effective golfer. In 1989 he was 14th in the European Order of Merit; in 1990 he won both the Volvo PGA Championship and the Volvo Masters and finished sixth in the Order; then his second place in the Open of '91 ensured 12th place in the Order. He was, emphatically, one of Europe's leading golfers and his wins in the Volvo events gave him exemption from qualifying for 10 years.

This year, though, despite

that, he is not only not using that exemption but is not even playing in Europe. A glance at the statistics shows why, and Harwood's absence this year shows they do not lie. After 12th place in the Order in '91 he finished 128th in 1992 and from then on his finishes have been 17th, 54th, 126th, 144th and 188th. He has not finished in the top three of any European event since '91 and has had only four top-10 finishes in that time. His stroke average, 70.8 for the whole '91 season, was 75.85 last year, during which time he won £6,500.

**H**ARWOOD, though, is not quite in the same category as Mudd or Beck. The American was clearly going to be a substantial player on the world scene, capable of competing at the highest levels, whereas Harwood at Birkdale was more a surprise than a fulfilment. Mudd, though, does have one achievement in common with the Australian: he won his tour's two principal titles, the Players Championship and the Tour Championship, in the same year. In his case 1991. He won almost a million dollars that year, to be fifth on the Money List, and the manner of his win in the Tour Championship, when he birdied the last two holes to get into a play-off and then birdied the first extra hole, marked him as America's next aspirant for major golfing honours. Not, however, in the mind of Mudd. Rather like

Byron Nelson before him, Mudd was and is essentially a farming man. His abiding desire was not so much the walk up the 72nd fairway and the deafening acclaim of the crowds watching him win a major; more to see a horse he had bred win the Kentucky Derby. As soon as he had made enough money out of golf, he bought a farm in Pineville, Kentucky, and began to scale down his appearances on the Tour. In the six years since Birkdale he has averaged 10 events per season, did not play last year and has not done so this year.

The US Tour guide shows Mudd as a neatly coiffed young man, dressed in golfer's gear. When he appeared at the 26th anniversary of the Players Championship this year he was balding with a trimmed beard and was wearing a suit, white shirt and tie. Out of a golfing context he would have been unrecognisable.

He was not, of course, playing. "I'm doing just exactly what I want to be doing," he said. "I never really played golf for the money. I love the game but I didn't love the travelling and the staying away from home in hotels, all that sort of stuff."

But surely someone as good as he had been could not stay away for ever? "I may give it a try again, just to see if I can be competitive. There's some curiosity to see if I can play on this level. I don't know when or where but I think I'll give it a try." The case of Chip Beck is yet another mystery.

This was a man with enough in him to beat Barry Lane by one hole in the 1983 Ryder Cup despite being three down with five to play. In those days Beck had a jaunty walk combined with a cheerful disposition, plus a resilience that enabled him after being walloped by Severiano Ballesteros in the World Match Play to have had "been tested in the crucible of humiliation".

**N**OW he is being tested again, his head is down, vision clamped over his eyes, and he walks from place to place watching his feet. Quite dramatically he refers to having acquired "cancer of the swing", a swing which, in 1991, in the third round of the Las Vegas Invitational, got him round the Sunrize course in 68. But 20 months ago he began missing cuts and now he cannot stop. It is not that the swing looks different; it is, as Baker-Finch knows, what goes on in the mind.

Beck is last in driving accuracy and, not surprisingly, last in greens hit in regulation. His scoring average is 75, also last.

"It makes you look foolish when you play like this," says Beck, "especially when you've worked and practised and tried as hard as I have. I was a good 10-handicapper last year, well, maybe a five."

Baker-Finch, Harwood, Mudd and Beck: all of them talented, all of them, in 1991, able to contemplate classic careers in the game, perhaps none more so than Baker-Finch. At Birkdale '91 the Australian wept when he won and said: "I couldn't stop myself because this is the world championship, it's the most important of them all. I'd give everything I've ever won before for this old claret jug." He could hardly have realised he would have to give up everything that was to come because of it.



important of them all. I'd give everything I've ever won before for this old claret jug. He could hardly have realised he would have to give up everything that was to come because of it.

**P**ROCEEDS from the MCC v World XI one-day at Lord's on Saturday go to the over-subscribed and sometimes discredited Princess Diana Fund as a result of MCC's knee-jerk, bandwagoning genuflections to the over-wrought national mood of last autumn, but during the gala day cricketing folk will be nodding homage not so much to Althorp's mausoleum and gifts shops but in a west-early direction from St John's Wood to Bristol and the birthplace of the game's own timeless icon WG Grace.

The day, July 18, is the precise 150th anniversary of Grace's birth and for MCC it should have been a rigidly unmovable feast day in the first place. In 1948 Lord's staged a touching WG Centenary match. In 1922, when the "Old Man", who died in 1915, would have been 75, the Grace Gates at Lord's were commissioned.

A century ago Lord's would probably have gone ahead with the birthday party had the ailing old Queen snuffed it the week before. On Monday,

July 18, 1898, on his 50th birthday, Grace himself led out the Gentlemen against the Players in what remains — simply because he did so — the most indelibly remembered fixture between those two teams so familiar to cricket's antique love.

David Kynaston is a financial writer with acclaimed histories under his belt, notably on the City of London and the Financial Times. His hobby is cricket and last week he republished his elegant and gracefully turned little classic, 'WG's Birthday Party', which chronicles the 1898 match in detail, vividly evoking late-Victorian period and place as well as the sheer presence of WG, iridescent bearded wonder, jovial rascal and champion cricketer. This was London on the morning of Monday, July 18, 1898.

"The birthday dawned fair and from soon after breakfast all roads led to St John's Wood. Excursion trains were run from the west of England; travellers on the Metropolitan line were subject to vexing delays . . . and everywhere

there were hansom cabs, some of the horses collapsing under the heat and blocking the already crowded streets. Long before the gates were opened at half-past ten (the match due to start at noon) a big crowd had collected outside the ground."

The admirably unmercenary MCC charged its usual admission of sixpence and, as the turnstiles clicked away busily, all seats except those in the Pavilion were occupied within the hour. Rows of six or seven deep of standing spectators formed behind the seats.

"WG himself, accompanied by his wife and daughter and now wearing his favourite half-topper black hat, arrived

a few minutes before eleven. Renowned for his bone-crushing bat, he found everyone over the next hour waiting to take the risk and shake him by the hand; and as he slowly made his way round to the north side of the ground to the mobile post office, where some hundred telegrams of congratulation awaited him, he was greeted by hearty cheers and continuous shouts of 'many happy returns', and to one and all he smiled his expansive smile. For once WG found that he had no time for his usual morning net practice."

Gentlemen: WG Grace, AC MacLaren, AE Stoddart, FS Jackson, SMJ Woods, EG Wynyard, JR Mason, CL Townsend, JA Dixon, G MacGregor, CJ Kortright. Players: Shrewsbury, Abel, Gunn, Storer, Tunnicliffe, Brockwell, Hearne A, Lilley, Lockwood, Balch, Hearne JT. The mock-Gothic pavilion, familiar today, would have been more gleamingly pink-stoned, having been built only eight years before. The low-throated seating on either side of

it had not yet raked high to the skies as the grandstands Warner and Co they were usually uncovered and only for big occasions such as this was a shaded awning improvised over them.

There was similar, but less select, seating, three or four rows deep, along the northern Grandstand side at deep-mid-wicket or cover-point and, across from it on the other side of the vast field, The Tavern was still a "working" commercial hotel with its frontage on the street.

The Nursery and was an undeveloped open paddock out of which, on the cricket field's south-east corner, an ivy-clad rectangular building housed MCC's real tennis court.

Kynaston picks up the story: "At last, at three minutes past noon, the enormous, indestructible figure with greying beard and striped cap came down the Pavilion steps and through the gate. Every one on the ground stood and there rose a mighty, deafening, inarticulate roar, followed by a volley of hurrahs . . . WG

responded with a modest, half-deprecatory salute in military fashion . . . and through the professional's side-gate emerged the Players' opening pair, Nottinghamshire's Shrewsbury in his familiar white slouch-hat and Abel in the faded chocolate cap of Surrey."

That night MCC threw a banquet for Grace in the Pavilion. Next evening the bibulous celebrations moved to the Sports Club, St James's Square. After three days of rousing cricket the Players won at the very last by 137 runs, WG batting with a severely bruised hand and being left high and dry on 31 not out when the last of the amateurs' wickets fell.

Players: 335 (Townsend 4-58, Grace 1-34) and 253 (Storer 73, Mason 4-47). Gentlemen: 303 (MacLaren 50, Grace 43, Hearne J 5-87) and 158 (Jackson 33, Grace 31 not out, Hearne J 6-66). \*WG's Birthday Party, by David Kynaston (Night Watchman Books, New Malden, Surrey KT3 5AT; £13, inc post & package)





Green and vengeful... the course in 1991, when Richard Boxall broke his leg at the 9th. Severiano Ballesteros blasted his way to ninth before sliding from Europe's No.1 to No.50 and Ian Baker-Finch could enjoy the champion's jug

PHOTOGRAPHS: PHIL COLE, DAN SMITH, ALLSPORT

## Harlow's non-stop runner on the blind side

### CENTRE STAGE

Pete Nichols

**N**OEL THATCHER says he has useful sight for about five yards, which implies it is not very useful at all. It should be enough to stop him walking into things. It does not, as Thatcher knows to his cost, stop him running into them. Thatcher, who runs a lot, has stumbled on more kerbs than he cares to remember in his races. Last week, when out training, he ran into a car.

For Thatcher it was that kind of week. It began with him breaking the world 10,000 metres record for an athlete with B2 visual impairment, a handicap he likens to seeing

the world through a snowy television screen. He broke the record at the Essex County Championships on a cold, miserable night in Basildon. It was not the first time he had broken it but it was the first time that he had become county champion, beating the clear-sighted men too. "In the last few laps I ran in an outside lane because your eyes are getting more tired at that stage and I didn't want to take any chances," he says.

Thatcher had no sooner recovered from the race than he went down with a chest infection which, had it lingered, might have threatened his next appointment, the International Blind Association (IBSA) World Championships which begin in Madrid this week. He still sounds throaty but most of the virus has been shaken off and the car did no lasting damage either. So Thatcher flies out with the team this Thursday. The

championship trail of the Harlow physiotherapist began in 1994, when he won silver in the 300m at the Paralympics.

For the next two games Thatcher moved up a distance each time, winning gold in the 800 at Seoul in 1996, gold in the 1500 in Barcelona in 1992. It was in Atlanta, though, two years ago, that Thatcher really got stuck in.

For those Paralympics his ambition embraced the 5,000, 10,000 and marathon — in other words just about every track event he had not already won a title in. Thatcher trotted off to Miyazaki, in southern Japan, to prepare with a group of that country's Olympic athletes. In Miyazaki he picked up a stress fracture and 10 days before his first final he could barely walk down to breakfast.

If determination is a virtue Thatcher must be close to canonisation. He not only ran and won the 10,000 (Man With Broken Leg Wins Gold, said

one headline) but an hour before the final he ran the second leg in a 4x1000 heat to help out another runner carrying a sore hamstring; they qualified too. "It was an unusual sort of warm-up," he agrees.

Three days after the 10,000 he ran and won the 5,000 and still felt he could go on and do the marathon because his general fitness, notwithstanding the fracture, was so good. Everything changed when he saw a television interview with Dr John Reynolds, the chief medical officer of the British team. "He was explaining that, if I did run, it could shatter the leg completely," he says.

When Thatcher came home there would not have been much time to run even if he could have. For over a month the celebrity round took over. When it slowed down and was back to normal the stress fracture had mended and he was out on the road again.

Last year was the turn of

the European Championships, held in Riccione, Italy, in September. Thatcher duly won both the 5,000 and the 10,000.

The World Championships in Madrid, he believes, will be harder because of the altitude (the city is over 2,000 feet above sea level). So the marathon will have to wait for another day and his best remains at a frustrating 2hr 35min.

His current world record is 32min 5sec but the 32-year-old believes he is only scratching the surface of his talent. "There are not too many distance runners with my basic speed but I'm still preparing like a club athlete," he says.

Thatcher would love to go back to Japan and train full time. The funding will give him time to prepare properly for Sydney and to increase the training load steadily

### Bogeyed foursome

#### Ian Baker-Finch

Age 37  
Majors 1  
Best finish in major  
Winner, 1991  
Open, Royal Birkdale  
Career money £1,275,410  
Teams World Cup '85;  
Dunhill Cup '89, '92  
Years as pro 19  
Wins 18 worldwide  
Low round 64, Birkdale '91

#### Jodie Mudd

Age 38  
Majors 0  
Best finish in major  
Tied 4th, 1987  
US Masters and  
1990 Open,  
St Andrews  
Career money £1,722,058  
Teams Walker Cup '81  
Years as pro 16  
Wins 4  
Low round 63, Bob Hope Classic 1986

#### Chip Beck

Age 41  
Majors 0  
Best finish in major  
Second, 1993  
US Masters  
Career money £3,577,683  
Teams Ryder Cup '89, '91, '93  
Years as pro 20  
Wins 4  
Low round 59, Las Vegas Invitational '91

#### Mike Harwood

Age 39  
Majors 0  
Best finish in major  
Second, 1991  
Open, Royal Birkdale  
Career money £1,013,307  
Teams World Cup '84, '91;  
Dunhill Cup '91  
Years as pro 19  
Wins 11  
Low round 62, 1991 German Mercedes Masters



## Twickers' world of little globes and lost marbles

### FAIR GAME

Julie Welch



**A**N ESSENTIAL feature of dementia is not knowing where one is. In the case of the Rugby Football Union it is not knowing where South Africa is. This is how the whole misbegotten tour of the southern hemisphere came about. The only RFU member with O level Geography had popped out for another bottle of gin when the issue of the tour was raised and the itinerary was drawn up by people who could not quite place Cape Town on the map but seemed to recall it was around half an hour's drive from Auckland.

The second symptom of losing one's marbles is an inability to identify everyday objects, though to be fair to the RFU nobody else could put a name to any of the players in the touring party either. This was because it was picked from various C teams, plus anyone from the Extra Zs who could still see his toes over his belly.

It is the clubs who pay the salaries and, quite rightly, they argued that after a tough season making corporate videos and appearing on a Question Of Sport all their really famous players were too knackered for international duty. There was no way they were going to be allowed to go into the new season in a condition that made Boncrusher

Smith look like Prince Naseem.

Usually when a coach says, "It'll give us the chance to blood young talent," he means that a couple of injuries have proved a blessing in disguise by allowing him to give promising youngsters the taste of top-level competition in a controlled environment. On the recent tour the phrase was meant to be taken literally, with whippersnappers spending their summer holidays being macerated and dismembered by giant Antipodeans when they should have been back home putting Clearasil on their spots and waiting for their GCSE results.

People with dementia also have problems with executive function. This involves tasks such as planning, organising, sequencing and deciding well in advance what the rules of next season's competition are going to be. A lot of the fun and excitement of being a professional rugby player in England these days comes from not knowing until half-time in the final match of the season whether you are going for the title or have another 40 minutes in which to avoid the drop into the Second Division.

However, it is unjust to dismiss all members of the RFU as puce-faced old wrecks; the modern game has attracted a new breed of young entrepreneurs whose commercial acumen is combined with strong principles and a real feel for the traditions of the game. Inevitably, these are the ones who storm out of Twickenham to form breakaway groups, leaving the big decisions to antiquated clots who spend hours reminiscing about the days when you could tread on an opponent's head, let him buy you a drink afterwards, then throw up over his shoes, reducing the appeal of the fivers stuffed inside them.

Factions are formed when the men of principle make a stand about perceived inequalities in the game. They feel they have a duty to speak up for rugby's little men, the ones at the bottom of the pyramid who can afford only one Porsche, having had to support their continuing participation in the sport they love by taking well-paid jobs in the City.

But the RFU is not completely without organisational flair. In a remarkable show of forward planning it timed its tour to coincide with the World Cup so nobody would notice how badly the side was doing. The England and Wales Cricket Board promptly took a leaf out of the same book and sneaked in successive Test routs by South Africa.

But, while the ECB went on to demonstrate its finger-on-the-pulse awareness of the public mood by arranging a heroic draw as soon as anyone was looking again, all the RFU managed was another pitiful defeat.

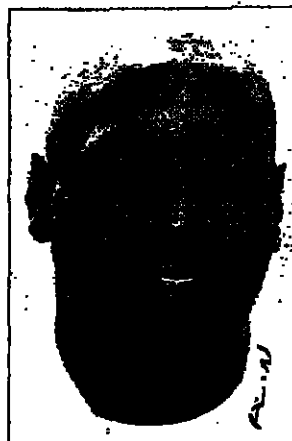
Another sporting occasion which passed blessedly unnoticed was Henley.

This year's coxless fours boasted a fiercely contested final in which both crews kept rowing after they had crossed the finish line. One upturned boat was later spotted floating in Lechlade but went unreported because it coincided with the France-Italy penalty shoot-out.

On the other hand, nobody ever notices Henley is on apart from a few elderly men in Babycolor blazers. Sometimes even they do not realise that the river is unusually crowded, being far too busy trying to find out why someone has stuck marquee in their clubhouse gardens and let in a bunch of oiks with hired dress suits and fake la-di-dah accents.



# Slogger



A side-on glance at cricket



The House & Building XI Handy men, domestically speaking

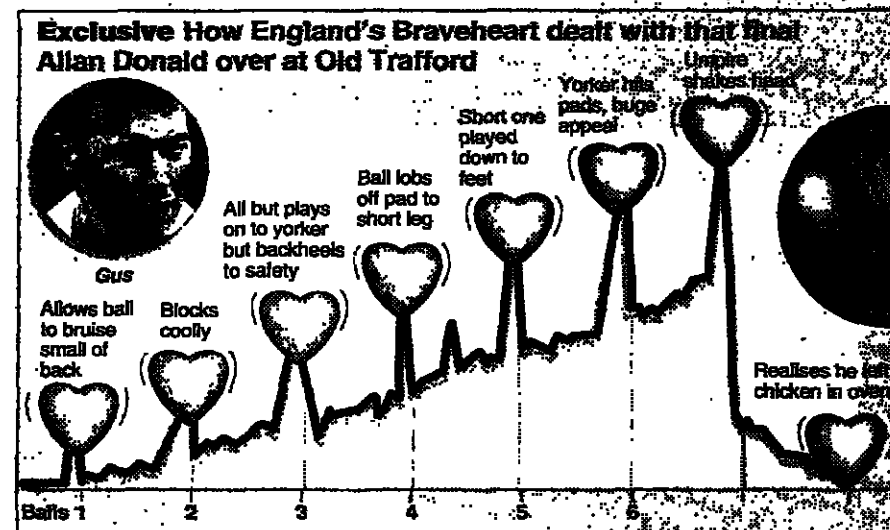
## Haircuts 100

No.8 Viv Richards

All those dreams, all those years of worshipping from afar, all those early mornings spent practicing that impenetrable scowl. Then, one day, Viv decided the only way was to actually look like Marvin Hagler.

Barry Wood: Lancastrian prone to splashing attacks  
Barry Wood: Puma urge given between first and second Test  
Michael Slater: Precocious career at the top way of a batsman  
Jackie Mitchell: SA opener with penchant for slicing around  
Mark Watkinson: Transferring Gloucester's miffed young batsman  
Eddie Paynter: Colourful character brushed with greatness  
Jack Bannister: Players' union stalwart, very a team to lean on  
Wally Groves: Aussie keeper seldom let anything through  
Andy Mallett: Big-hitting Aussie off too often (hit on tour)  
Wes Hall: Wicketless quick's entrance was hugely praised  
Tony Lock: Turned tail a mile, backing batsmen at will

## Gratuitous Graphic



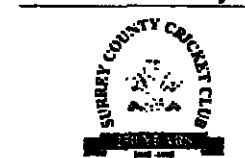
## Six steps to Devon



Jeremy Rhodes dives around the field a lot, as (less justifiably) do Ariel Ortega and sundry other Argentine footballers, who have bred depression in many Englishmen. As has Thom Yorke, who sang on a record called The Bends, whereas a single band was enough for Ayton Sweeney when he had his fatal crash. Currently in danger of a fatal crash is the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, which has fallen very quickly, not unlike the wicket of Devon Malcom. (Thanks to Michael Gray, Cambridge)

Each week we will print the most ingenious route from a specified personality to Northern Ireland's ageless paceman. Send your contributions to the address below. This week's starting-point: Graeme Hick

## Everything you wanted to know (but were too polite to ask) about... Surrey



Key question: How in hell's name did they win seven championships on the trot (1992-98), a feat matched only by Wigan's septet of rugby league titles as the greediest sequence in the history of major professional team games in England as we know it?

Smart-bottom answer: The Greatest County Attack Of All Time, the Best English Batsman Of His Generation, a cluster of piratical close fielders and some exceedingly dodgy pitches. Oh yes, and Stuart Surridge (below), the skipper who predicted they would win in five in a row.

Claims to fame: 1) Surridge was the last county captain to declare with fewer than 100 on the board, bow the open out twice before stumps and win by an innings (v Worcs, 1994); 2) The Oval, the Lord's of Surrey, London, home to the planet's most charismatic gas-bolters; 3) The Three Aitch Bombers: Hobbs, Haywood and Hollis (1911).

Worst fear: A rain delay at Cheltenham

Which opaque luminary (right) damned which colleague with the following extremely faint praise? "Strong as a bull elephant. Always going on about rounding up wild animals for a fight. Worrying thing is that he means it."

Answers to address below. First correct entry gets a signed copy of Poms and Cobbers (Andre Deutsch), Rob Steen's 1997 Ashes diary. Last week's winner on Cowdrey, spotted by J R Davies, Middlesex

Slogger welcomes contributions. Write to the Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. You can e-mail us at slogger@guardian.co.uk or fax us on 0171-713 4107



Pray and predator... Mark Iltott celebrates bowling Phil Simmons for two during Leicestershire's innings of 76 yesterday

Benson and Hedges Cup final: Essex v Leicestershire

# Iltott and Cowan make up for lost time as Essex take farewell prize

David Hopps sees Leicestershire succumb to all-time low when the rain relents at Lord's

THERE might have been no classic conclusion to the Benson and Hedges Cup but there was certainly a start. Essex pulled off the most comprehensive victory witnessed at Lord's in 36 years of domestic one-day finals.

It took Essex nearly two days to complete a victory in a bedraggled final that for many gossipy hours looked bound to be settled by a shoot-out but in all other respects Leicestershire, who had won the toss, were routed. They were dismissed yesterday for 76, the lowest total in any one-day final, and the margin of 192 runs was also unsurpassed.

Essex needed only 37.4 overs to brush aside Leicestershire. The rain that began on Saturday, with Essex having established a bridgehead of 229 for seven, relented to allow a start by 3.25. The sagacious and sippy new-ball bowling of Mark Iltott and Ashley Cowan did the rest.

Rain-disrupted matches can disturb the mind-set of the best counties but Leicestershire, who entered the final as the only county still in contention for all four domestic competitions, were pained at succumbing so rapidly, however responsive the conditions were to seam and swing.

A night's reflection had warmed into the Leicestershire psyche. To win over 50 overs they required a record

total for a side batting second in 37 years of B & H finals. As soon as it became clear that the conditions of Saturday would be replicated, they suspected that their chances were minimal.

It had been far easier as the rain tipped down to imagine the ways they might fiddle an

unmerited victory: a shoot-out in front of the pavilion to a backdrop of MCC umbrellas and hunched photographers or a steal in an abbreviated match decided by the arithmetical complexity of the Duckworth-Lewis method.

The ECB's chief executive Tim Lamb had staunchly pronounced before lunch that this might be the day that Duckworth-Lewis came of age. Fortunately we were all spared the awful experience, as even Leicestershire's captain Chris Lewis agreed.

"This is how it should have been settled, with a proper game of cricket," he said. "We just didn't do ourselves justice with the ball yesterday or the day before."

Leicestershire's agitation soon made the lurking threat of Duckworth-Lewis an irrelevance. By the ninth over they were 17 for four and Iltott and Cowan had displayed a dexterity far in excess of anything produced by the rival attack 24 hours earlier.

Cowan's gawky run, guileless expression and summer of back trouble do not automatically identify him as the country's most clinical new-ball bowler but he flourished from the Nursery End in Essex's quarter-final victory against Middlesex and he did so again yesterday.

Five exploratory overs had passed before Cowan had laid his left arm and Ben Smith caught off successive balls at second slip. When Darren Maddy became his third victim — the record run-maker in any B & H season limited to five innings in 14 overs —

Leicestershire were 31 for six. Iltott had done the rest of the damage. Had the left-armers swung the ball more frequently, he would have won a school of England caps. Yesterday he swung it as he must in his dream. Phil Simmons was bowled as his wicketon drive completed a miserable match; Vince Wells and Aftab Habib followed to huge in-ducks. The match finished with Ronnie Irani dashing in like a world-beater.

The Gold Award, rightly, had been earned on Saturday. Paul Prichard's 92, from 113 balls, for Essex was the spark of a batting from a captain who was playing his first match in the competition this season after shin surgery.

One England A tour to Australia in 1992/93 represents the sum of his international achievements but the quality of his strokeplay in such exacting conditions, notably off the back foot, was enough to encourage regrets that he had not achieved better.

Leicestershire, lacking the pace bowling of Jimmy Ormond and David Millar, were underdog. Alan Mullally was unfortunate to encounter umpire Ray Julian on a day when he imposed one-day wides in such draconian fashion, and he drew his consolation from a late tumble of wickets, but Lewis bowled skittily and Simmons, having a mediocre season, had a nightmarish time.

Prichard was eventually dismissed cutting Dominic Williams to backward point, although the bowler had almost dismissed him on 52. Prichard's searing square cut being carried over the line for six by the unfortunate Maddy.

Nasser Hussain was also instrumental in Essex achieving the third highest total in 27 years of Benson finals, a feat which realistically should not have been within their compass. Bellocity is at the heart of all Hussain's finest one-day innings and he had looked fit to sting all-comers before Lewis caused him to miss-pull to midwicket.

Driving force... Prichard shows Essex the way with his 92

Warwickshire Kent

Warwickshire won by five wickets.

Warwickshire won by five wickets.

Warwickshire won by five wickets.

Warwickshire won by five wickets.

## First women's one-day international

England v Australia

# England splutter in the damp

Matthew Goldart at Scarborough

ENGLAND'S women cricketers failed to take advantage of some help from the weather and suffered their usual fate against Australia's world champions yesterday, losing on scoring rate in the first of a five-match series of one-day internationals at the Scarborough Festival.

England's reply to an imposing total of 166 for five in a game reduced to 29 overs as a side was faltering on 24 for two after eight overs when more rain trimmed the target to 115 from a total of 20 overs.

With the prolific Jan Brittin still at the crease there was hope for England but they could not withstand the pressure imposed by Cathryn Fitzpatrick's extra pace and Karen Rolton's left-arm attack and folded to 104 for seven.

## Scoreboard

AXA League

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 0  
GLAMORGAN 4

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE won by five runs.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE won by five runs.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE won by five runs.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE won by five runs.

## Scoreboard

WARWICKSHIRE 4  
KENT 0

WARWICKSHIRE won by five wickets.

WARWICKSHIRE won by five wickets.

WARWICKSHIRE won by five wickets.

WARWICKSHIRE won by five wickets.

WARWICKSHIRE won by five wickets.

## League table

Derbyshire 10 W L D N Pts

Derbyshire 10 W L D N Pts

Derbyshire 10 W L D N Pts

Derbyshire 10 W L D N Pts

Derbyshire 10 W L D N Pts

Derbyshire 10 W L D N Pts

هكذا من الأصل

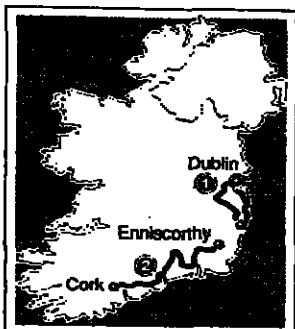


## Tour de France

## Boardman prolongs his yellow distinction

Briton stays ahead as Steels gets Dublin win, reports William Fotheringham

**C**HRIS BOARDMAN may live on the opposite side of the Irish Sea but in terms of distance, he is the regional of the Tour's three Irish stages. He followed the script to perfection in winning Saturday's prologue time-trial in Dublin



**Today**  
Stage 2  
205.5km

**Yesterday**  
Stage 1  
195.5km

and then holding his lead as the Belgian national champion Tom Steels won yesterday's 112-mile stage through the Wicklow Hills.

The Belgian's victory came a year and a day after he was thrown off the Tour for bungling a feeding bottle at a fellow competitor. Yesterday there were no such shenanigans as the peloton flew down from Le Col du Wicklow Gap and up the three-quarter-mile finish straight in Phoenix Park to the line outside the Irish President Mary McAleese's home.

Steels' victory and Boardman's successful defence of the yellow jersey were made simpler when the self-styled "fastest man in the world", the Italian Mario Cipollini, hit the deck as the race entered the park. Cipollini, deprived Boardman of the *maillot jaune* at the end of last year's opening stage, and after riding a strong time-trial on Saturday there had seemed every chance that his sprint would permit him to gain the bonus seconds necessary to repeat the feat.

Cipollini, whose latest advertising campaign for his shoe sponsor depicts him in the guise of James Bond, crossed the line shaken but not stirred almost four minutes behind Steels. His chances of taking yellow have gone; today the Belgian and Jan Ullrich's team-mate Erik Zabel will look to relieve Boardman of the jersey.

Boardman's victory on Saturday proved once again his innate ability to rise to the occasion. For the past five years he has insisted his form is not all it should be as the big day approaches, yet he has three prologue victories in the Tour, taken one second place and had one calamitous crash. It is a record which belies his annual pessimism.

At the end of the 3½ miles in the centre of Dublin he was well clear of a small group of favourites for overall victory, led by Spain's Abraham Olano, and the French champion Laurent Jalabert. Jan Ullrich, last year's winner,



Emerald ride... the main peloton heads up the Wicklow Gap in the crowd

PHOTOGRAPH: LORRAINE O'SULLIVAN

came in in the same time. Yesterday, the *entente* on the roads of Counties Dublin and Wicklow was more than merely cordial. The road sides were a sea of tricolours — both red white and blue, and green, orange and white — bands were playing on lorry and tractor trailers parked in fields, roadside picnics boasted an unlikely mix of red wine and Guinness. In scenes reminiscent of the Tour's visit to England in 1994 main streets of towns such as Bray and Arklow were lined five and six deep amid seas of bunting.

Cycling and Catholicism

have always gone together like the brown stuff and the *craic*, so it was no surprise to see a poster in perfect French — suggesting to the riders that, if they were tired, they could pop down to the church in Crinken, and another, on the outskirts of Dublin, declaring the Oblates' wish to welcome the Tour.

However, on a day of sunshine and showers, a 30 mph wind buffeted the crowds, blowing their tricolours on to the hillsides. *Le Tour en Irlande* may be a success with the public but it has been taking a hammering in other ways, earning the sobriquet

"Tour de Farce" in the Sunday Tribune. The eruption of the Tour's biggest ever drugs scandal has been a gradual seepage of ugly details after the arrest last Wednesday of a masseur, the Belgian Willy Voet, who works for the Festina Watches team who rank No.1 in the world and include in their ranks last year's runner-up Richard Virenque. Voet was taken at the Franco-Belgian border by French customs, apparently acting on a tip-off, and large quantities of banned drugs — anabolic steroids and the blood booster erythropoietin —

were found in his car. A raid on Festina's team equipment depot near Lyon led to further seizures. The Tour organisation and the team initially refused to confirm that the masseur was driving one of the Fiat cars issued to the team by the Tour organisers to be used on the race, or that he was on his way to the race. These denials have since been retracted. The organisers have refused to throw the team out but, with the French police taking an interest, they have no control over what happens next. ● Today: Enniscorthy-Cork, 128 miles

## Rugby Union

Bledisloe Cup: Australia 24 New Zealand 16

## Wallabies count cost of victory

Greg Grouden in Melbourne

**A**USTRALIA'S first win over the All Blacks since August 1994 came with an injury-list attached which will prevent them being able to field an unchanged side for a record fifth successive Test.

The Wallabies' prop Richard Harry dislocated a knee in the opening minutes of the Bledisloe Cup match at the MCG on Saturday and will miss next weekend's second Tri-Nations fixture against South Africa in Perth, the first time a Test has been played in Western Australia.

There are doubts also over the right-wing Ben Tune (strained left knee) and the hooker Phil Kearns (bruised ribs), while other injuries include the flanker David Wilson (sore left shoulder), the replacement back-row forward Willie O'Fahengau (strained knee ligaments) and the centres Tim Horan and Daniel Herbert, who have bruised knee caps.

That Australia have so many walking wounded was hardly surprising after a fearless defensive effort that frustrated New Zealand and delighted the majority of the 75,000 crowd.

They exposed the All Blacks' frailties that have emerged since the retirement of Sean Fitzpatrick, the centre Frank Bunce and the No.8 Zinzan Brooke, and Matt Burke's finishing with hand and foot consigned them to their first defeat in almost two years. The Wallabies focused much of their attacking firepower on Bunce's replacement Scott McLeod, and the new centre's tackling was found wanting.

They also surprised their opponents with unexpected tactical changes. New Zealand's flanker Josh Kronfeld said yesterday that they had expected Australia's fly-half Stephen Larkham to continue the aggressive running that had characterised his performances against England and Scotland, thereby testing the defence of his All Black counterpart Andrew Mehrtens.

But Larkham mixed his tactics, kicking 14 times, mainly when Australia were deep in their own half. The All Blacks assumed Australia would sweep wide on winning line-out ball, but instead they ran straight or went down the blindside.

Kronfeld said that Australia had done what the All Blacks generally did to their opponents — outthought them. "They played like we play... which is a shame because they are now catching up to us," he said. As important, Australia did not get carried away by the euphoria. At full-time their captain John Eales called his players into a huddle. The message was precise. After telling them that victory was "tremendous" and they had every right to celebrate, he stressed that the job was not finished, because there were still two more Bledisloe Cup matches to play — at Christchurch on August 1 and Sydney on August 28.

"Remember," Eales said, "this is a Bledisloe match. It's not the Bledisloe Cup."

It was a night of high achievement for Burke, who broke the individual points record against New Zealand which he already held. His tally of 24, from two tries, four penalty goals and a conversion, surpassed the 20 points he had scored against the All Blacks in Brisbane in 1996. Burke also became Australia's second-highest points scorer, passing David Campese on 316. However he still has a long way to go to catch Michael Lynagh on 911.

Burke's kicking proved the difference between the sides, with Mehrtens having an off-day. "Our goalkicking got us home but we deserved to win," said Eales. "We were under a lot of pressure and our defence was outstanding."

**SOONEST** Australia: Trixie Burke 2, Conversion Burke, Penalties Burke 4, New Zealand: Trixie Kronfeld, 1 Jones, Penalties Mehrtens 2. **AUSTRALIA** Burke: Tune, Herbert, Horan, Roff, Larkham, Grouden, Harry (Crowley), Kearns, Bladen, Eales, Brown, Cockburn, Wilson, Kato (Changousis, McClelland, McLeod) (Specker, 75; Little, Viori (Lomu 60; Mehrtens, Marshall, Dowd, Oliver, Brown, 1 Jones, Brooke, 1 Jones (Maka 60; Kronfeld, Randall (capt). **REFEREE** C Thomas (Wales).

## Rowing

## Sweet taste for Redgrave four

Christopher Dodd in Lucerne

**S**TEVE REDGRAVE long ago lost count of the medals he has won on the Rotsee. God's little lake behind this Swiss city, but yesterday's unrepentant gold, with James Cracknell, Tim Foster and his long-standing partner Matthew Pinsent in the World Cup, was among the sweetest.

It signalled the return to dominant form of a four who lost their liz in May after Foster tore his hand on a broken window. Only Foster raised an arm after they

crossed the line — his right, outside arm — to acknowledge its full restoration.

After the start was delayed for 90 minutes because the Norwegians broke their ruder, the British crew combined a beautiful, powerful row in the late afternoon sunshine with a couple of useful scalps — the Romanian winners of the competition's first round, who gave vigorous chase, and the Australian winners of the second round, who took bronze.

The British four dominated from the first stroke to claim a clear lead after 500 metres in 1min 32secs. They were fastest to every marker, beat-

ing the Romanians by three seconds and the Australians by nearly seven. Nomination for the World Championships is a foregone conclusion. The only doubt for that event was the absence from Lucerne of a competitive French four.

Britain retained second place behind Germany in the World Cup overall, with seven finalists and a bronze medal for the men's eight who missed on a photo-finish for the gold between Germany and Romania.

Dot Blackie and Cath Bishop won the World Cup for coxless pairs but lost their unbeaten record by finishing fourth. The winners of the first two

rounds were out of touch with last year's world champions from Canada, Emma Robinson and Alison Korn, who won from the front.

The lightweight double scullers Tracy Langlands and Jane Hall finished a disappointing fourth, but they are nevertheless still with the pack.

The best of the rest were the Oxford Brookes students Fred Scarlett and Steve Williams, who were fifth in Redgrave and Pinsent's former event, the coxless pairs. The women's eight were fifth, the women's quadruple scullers sixth, and the single sculler Guin Batten won a point for winning the B final to rank seventh.

## Athletics

## Jackson beats Germans at home in strong warning to Europe

Duncan Mackay

**C**OLIN JACKSON has moved a step closer to regaining his position at the top of the world rankings. The Welshman chalked up his ninth 110 metres hurdles victory of the season at a meeting in Nuremberg on Saturday, clocking 13.07sec to leave the Germans Falk Balzer and Florian Schwarhoff, his two main rivals at the European Championships in Budapest next month, trailing in his wake.

Jackson's time is quicker than at the corresponding stage of the 1993 season in which he later ran a world record of 12.91.

"I know I can run under 13 seconds and I'm pretty confident I can run under 12.91," said Jackson. "I think it's more a case of when rather than if."

Jackson's success came after he had suffered a defeat in Linz six days earlier at the hands of the American Reggie Torian, the only time the Briton has been beaten all year.

Meanwhile Allen Johnson, one of Jackson's long-standing rivals, could finish only fourth in 13.34 at a Grand Prix meeting in Lille on Saturday. Jackson is so focused on

re-establishing his place as the world's best hurdler that he has postponed his attempt on the long jump until the Welsh Games in Cardiff on August 4. "I want to be world No.1 again and nothing is going to jeopardise that," he said. British attention will switch to Rome tomorrow when the Golden League resumes and the triple jumper Jonathan Edwards and 400 metres runner Mark Richardson will be aiming to maintain their unbeaten records and claim a share of the \$1 million available to athletes who remain undefeated throughout the series. Frankie Fredericks, winner of the 100 metres in Oslo, will drop out of the reckoning as he has been unable to agree an appearance fee.



Burke and hares... Australia's full-back leads the charge with his second try against New Zealand

## Equestrianism

## Smith slams the door on Skelton with a quicker gait

John Kerr at Hickstead

**R**OBERT SMITH, after a gap of 11 years, won his third men's championship at the Royal International Horse Show yesterday when he took the Tracks Data King George V Gold Cup on the former hunter, Senator Mighty Blue.

A keen four-horse contest for the second round did much

to enliven a dispiriting day in atrocious conditions of rain and mud. Smith, who had been the only rider without a fault among a depleted field of 23, hit the penultimate fence, but urged his 15-year-old partner on to match Nick Skelton on David Broome's nine-year-old Hopes Are High.

Smith, from Yorkshire, took the £15,000 top prize with a 2.25sec better time. Tim Stockdale on Traxdata Inter-

view was third ahead of Rob Hoekstra on Lionel.

The victory was a welcome success for Smith, who has been without his No.1 horse Tees Hanauer all this season. He described Mighty Blue, which he has been riding for five years, as "a great all-rounder". The former Rome puissance winner also took the French jumping derby at La Baule in May.

Both Saturday's main

events went to British team riders. Di Lampard and Abberval Dream regained the Queen's Cup, the women's championship, with the fastest of three clear rounds in a seven-horse jump-off, beating Meredith Beerbaum of the United States on Stella and Louise Whitaker on Gammon.

John Whitaker's fourth success of the show was his second on Hunter's Level in the Speed Grand Prix.

Guardian

**ELLE**

See the August issue of ELLE - on sale now - and this Wednesday's G2 for your chance to vote

ELLE THE MAGAZINE THAT'S GOT

**YOUR ESSENTIAL TOUR DE FRANCE GUIDES**

FEATURED RACE ACTION, NEWS, INTERVIEWS AND NEW PRODUCTS SHOWN AND RATED

**CYCLING WEEKLY**

ON SALE NOW

**TOUR DE FRANCE**

AVAILABLE AT ALL GOOD NEWSSTANDS EVERY THURSDAY

**CYCLE SPORT**

AVAILABLE AT GOOD NEWSSTANDS EVERY THURSDAY

**With BT's special offer you can connect your business to ISDN from just £99.**

Offer extended to 31/8/98

**Freefone 0800 800 800**

or visit [www.isdn.bt.com](http://www.isdn.bt.com)

GRD11

Why not change the way we work? **BT**

Offer extended to 31/08/98 on lines installed by 30/09/98. Example: Connection to BT's ISDN2 start-up package costs £99 (ex. VAT). Line rental and minimum contract periods apply.



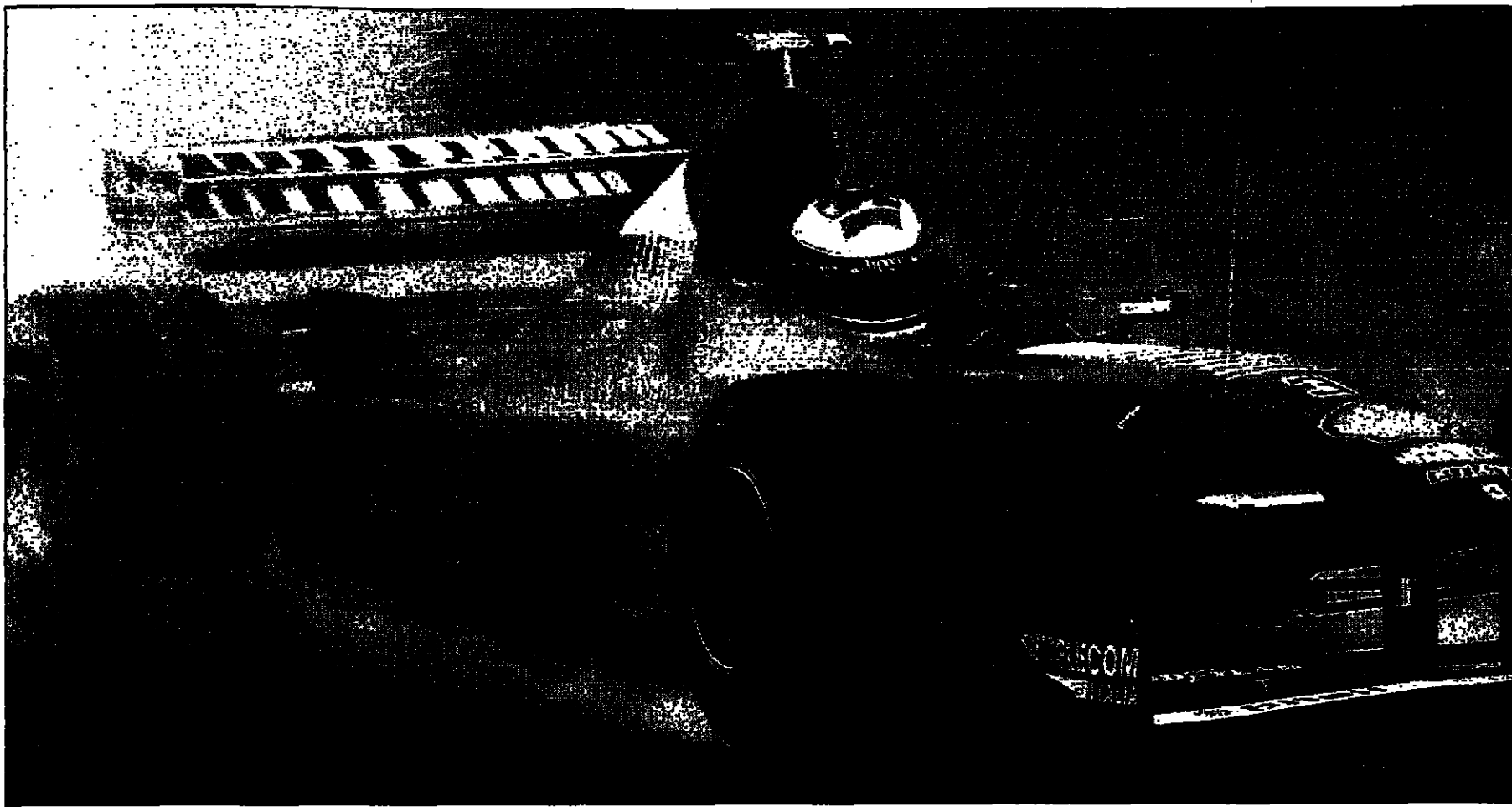








## British Grand Prix



Watertight... Michael Schumacher, Ferrari's wet-weather specialist, shows his mettle to finish with 10 more championship points

## Stewards' inquiry finds in favour of Ferrari

Alan Henry at Silverstone sees Schumacher's latest brush with authority

**M**ICHAEL Schumacher scored his first British Grand Prix victory yesterday in atrocious conditions and highly controversial circumstances which bordered on the bizarre.

Having won a remarkable battle with Mika Hakkinen's McLaren on a track surface intermittently assailed by torrential rain, the German brought his Ferrari F300 into the pit-lane to take a 10-second stop-go penalty after it had passed the chequered flag.

It was the culmination of a sequence of events which meant the race ended in a state of considerable tension and bad feeling, with McLaren lodging an official protest over the result and the way the matter was handled. But after an hour's deliberation the FIA stewards dismissed the protest.

McLaren claimed that Schumacher had passed the Benetton of Alexander Wurz on lap 43 of the 60-lap race while the field was queuing behind the safety car which had been deployed to slow the race at the height of the downpour.

For this transgression the 29-year old German was handed a stop-go penalty but the stewards decided that this should be added to his race time rather than bringing him into the pits for a more time-consuming delay. However, according to the rules, adding 10 seconds to the elapsed race time can be applied only if the race is within 12 laps of the finish, and that was not the case.

The stewards also seemed at variance with previous decisions they have made in similar circumstances. In last year's Austrian Grand Prix Schumacher incurred a 10-second stop-go penalty but had to come into the pits to take it.

This was not the first time that Schumacher had been in trouble at Silverstone. In the 1994 grand prix he was shown the black flag after overtaking Damon Hill's Williams on the parade lap and was then disqualified for ignoring the warning signal.

This time, before the safety car went out, Hakkinen's McLaren-Mercedes had built up a 38-second lead over Schumacher only to see it dissipated as the field slowed to a comparative crawl and Schumacher fell into line behind

Giancarlo Fisichella's Benetton and Toranosuke Takagi's Tyrrell in the queue behind the silver McLaren.

Two laps before the safety car emerged Hakkinen had spun wildly across the grass and a gravel trap on the outside of Bridge corner — in dry conditions a 150mph, near-flat-out right-hander — but managed to regain control and rejoin the circuit beyond the next corner.

After five laps' crawl the pack was unleashed again and Schumacher moved in for the kill.

With his nose section damaged by that spin across the grass, Hakkinen was struggling with a handling imbalance which prevented him fending off the German's Ferrari, which surged into the lead on lap 51.

Even Schumacher admitted he had been lucky. "I probably only won because of the safety car and Mika's problems," he said, "but I have to say that I just did not see the yellow flag for the Benetton which I was supposed to have passed."

It left Schumacher trailing the championship leader Hakkinen by only two points but for David Coulthard the race was a disaster, his title hopes sinking for good when he spun out of second place at the height of the downpour.

Similar errors put paid to the hopes of his fellow Britons Hill and Johnny Herbert, both of whom had started with high hopes of top-six finishes.

Hill's demise was particularly disappointing. Having qualified seventh, he ran as high as eighth in the opening stages, only to spin off on lap 14. His discomfiture was heightened by the fact that his team-mate Ralf Schumacher battled through to sixth place, taking the Jordan team's first points of the season after being relegated to the back of the grid following a technical infringement in practice.

"It was pathetic really. I was trying to find a way past a backmarker when I lost the car and spun. I felt so bad but thanks to Ralf I will come away from Silverstone with some happy feelings," Hill said. "I was hugely disappointed not to have performed as I had hoped. I feel very sad not to have given my fans a good result."

For Eddie Irvine third place was a reward for a steady drive which, after a poor start from fifth on the grid, saw him complete the opening lap in a disappointing 10th place. "I had not expected this result after my poor start," he said. "I had no trouble with anybody apart from Damon Hill who weaved in front of me."

## THE REASONS

for our

improved seating.

SUMMED UP IN A single column.

**BACK PAIN HAS NOW** reached epidemic proportions in the U.K. It is the single biggest cause of absenteeism, costing British companies and the NHS around £5.6 billion every year. It affects 54,000 people staggering off to their GP's each day. And it is likely at some time or other to affect 80% of us.

Although the trauma of back pain can touch anyone, at any level of society, there is evidence to suggest it particularly afflicts the poor beleaguered motorist. Especially the over-stressed, over-worked kind who clocks up 10,000 or more miles annually. Belting up and down the motorway in a cramped driver's seat, few realise they've caused any long term damage until it's too late. Until either a muscle, disc, or nerve decides to scream for help. But it needn't be that way, and if you read on for a few minutes we'll be happy to tell you how the Vauxhall Omega can provide a far more comfortable alternative.

## DON'T PUT YOUR BACK OUT

WE'VE identified the two culprits that cause backache at the wheel. Firstly, the badly adjusted seat, and secondly, the poorly designed seat. While you can do something about the former, you could well be stuck with the latter for the next three years. Reason enough, we believe, to afford a little more scrutiny in this area. After all, you wouldn't buy a bed without making sure it felt comfortable or supportive, would you? It's an especially pertinent analogy, because a good driver's seat should be built to the same exacting standards as a quality mattress. Namely, to an orthopaedic design, with the highest quality materials.

To this end, Vauxhall insist on seat cushions that are fully sprung, instead of being constructed entirely from foam. Back rests fashioned from natural, breathable materials, which won't overheat and cause the driver to feel tired. And overall proportions that are generous enough to accommodate even those who are ample of hip. But most importantly, we make sure our seats cradle the driver in all the right places, especially the lumbar area, and underneath the thighs. So hopefully you'll finish each journey feeling more refreshed and relaxed than you started it.

## THE ONLY DISCS YOU SHOULD SLIP IN AN OMEGA

DRIVING with every muscle in your body tensed is the short road to fatigue and stress. Sometimes the calming influence of music is just what you need to relax and unwind. (There's now evidence that listening to our favourite tunes, reduces blood pressure, and stress hormone levels.)

Whatever you choose, be it Radiohead or Rachmaninov, it'll sound more soothing coming from our state-of-the-art CCR Bose sound system.\* Operating the 16 disc autochanger CD player is less strenuous too. A set of steering wheel-mounted controls means your back doesn't have to leave the seat, or indeed, your eyes the road.

## DO YOU NEED TO SEE A SPECIALIST?

Even if you're not a back pain sufferer, we'd like to point out the benefits of driving an Omega to you first hand. Contact 0345 400 202 for details\* of your nearest Vauxhall dealership, and how to arrange a test drive.

## \* MAKE FOR THE STRAIGHT BACK \*

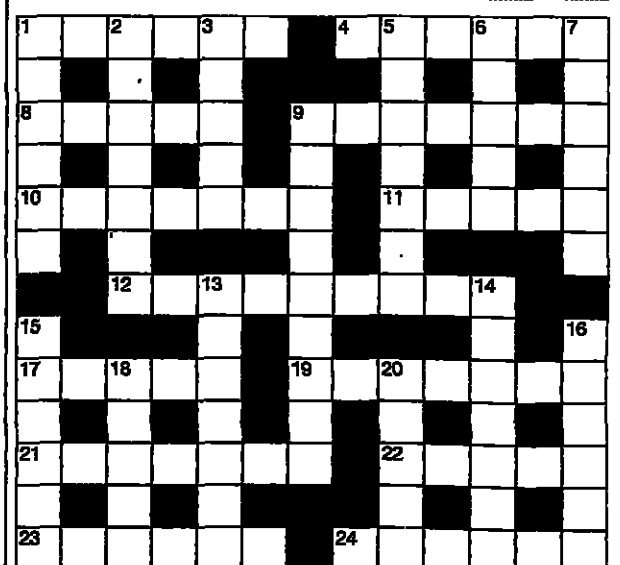
Oddly enough, the chairs that help you relax most may not be the comfy, over-stuffed variety. A chair that supports your back, and helps you to sit erect, is probably your best choice.

From 'The Little Book of Calm'.



A Positive Aid To Relaxation: THE VAUXHALL OMEGA

## Quick Crossword No. 8798



## Across

- 1 Conflict (5)
- 4 Weakens (5)
- 8 Tag (5)
- 9 Close — agreement (7)
- 10 Wealthy (7)
- 11 Female relative (5)
- 12 Rot (5)
- 17 Goodbye (5)
- 19 Need (7)
- 21 Hooligan (7)
- 22 Lifeless (5)
- 23 Vocal organ (5)
- 24 Still (5)

## Down

- 1 Infrequently (5)
- 2 Recoil (7)
- 3 Untrue (5)
- 5 Souvenir (7)
- 6 Conscious (5)
- 7 Cad (5)
- 9 Twin-hulled vessel (5)
- 13 Wariness (7)

- 15 Manifest (7)
- 16 Hardy, no, evergreen, yes (5)
- 18 Feverish (5)
- 19 Deduce (5)
- 20 Silence (5)

**SALAD DAYS**  
F A U E U D T  
A R A S A R T I S T E  
I P C V E P  
T A S T E F U L U N D O  
A H N E E T N  
A D O N E E X E M P T  
O C E V E L I C H  
O C R E V I O L E N C E  
A F R T O D  
P A T I E N T A R E N A  
L I T U M D S  
I N C L E M E N T

Solution No. 3787

Published by Guardian Newspapers Limited at 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3SF, and at 164 Desborough, Manchester M20 2PR. Printed at West Farn Printing Ltd, 235 West Farn Road, London E14 6NQ; and at Trafford Park Printers, Longbridge Road, Manchester M17 1SL. Te-Druckerei GmbH, Admiral-Rosendahl-Strasse 1, 50799 Neu-Berndorf/Zeppelinhofen, Germany; Nord-Eden, 1521 rue du Commerce, 59500 Roubaix, Cedex 1, France, for and on behalf of the Guardian and Manchester Evening News PLC, 47-225, Monday, July 13, 1998. Manchester: Telephone 0161-632 7200, Fax 0161-632 5351/834 9717. Telephone sales 0161-634 6006. London: Telephone 0171-278 2332, Fax 0171-278 2114; 1071-833 5342, Telephone sales 0171-611 9000. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office ISSN 0261-3077.